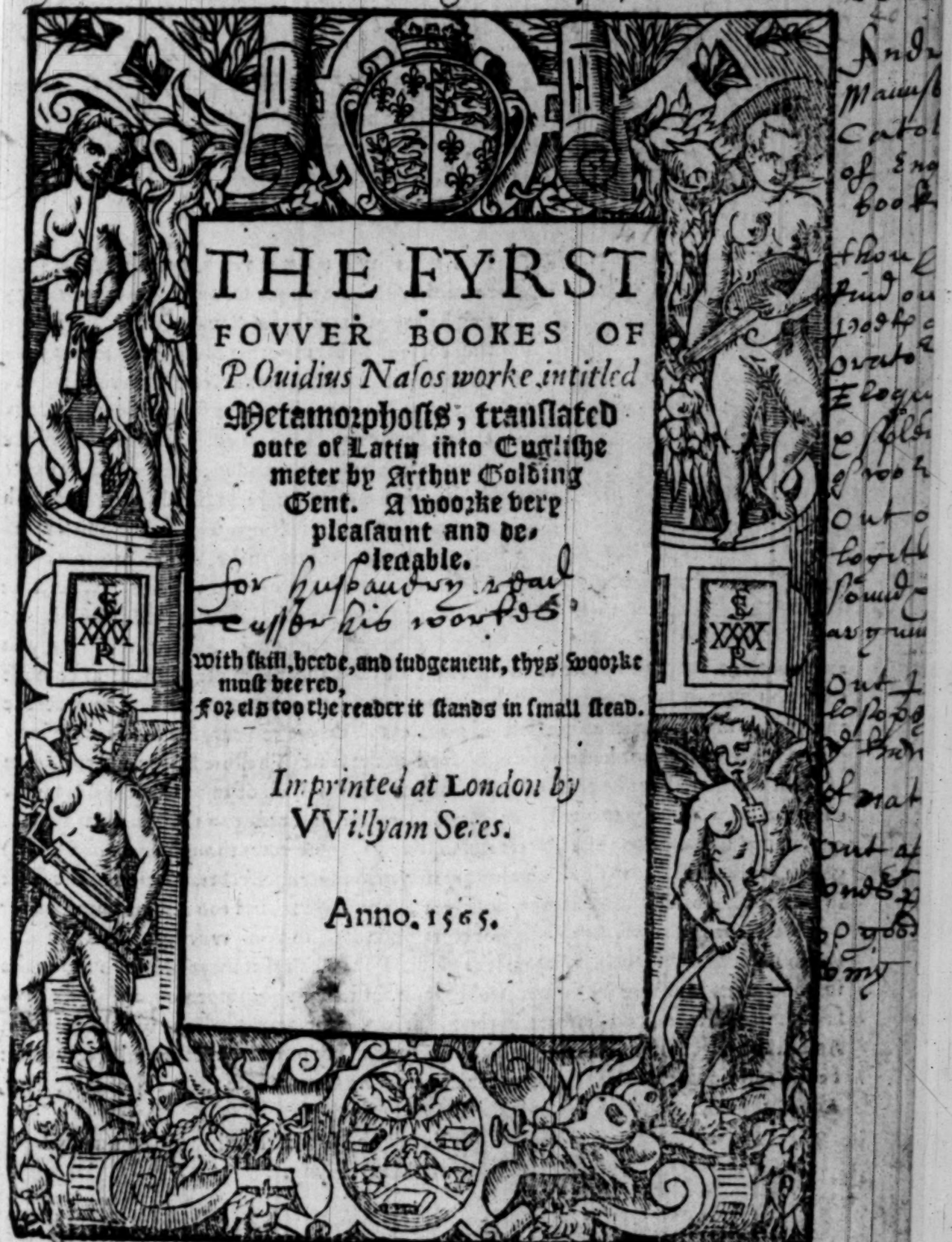

THE FYRST FOVVER BOOKES OF *P. Ouidius Nasos worke intitled* Metamorphosis, translated oute of Latin into Englishe meter by Arthur Golding Gent. A woorke very pleasaunt and delectable.

with skill, heede, and iudgement, thys woorke must beered,
For elis too the reader it stands in small stead.

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Anno. 1565.

TOO THE RIGHT HONORABLE AND

his ſingular good Lorde, Robert Erle of Leyceſter

Baron of Denbygh, Knyght of the moſte noble order of the Garter, &c. Arthur Goldyng gent. wiſheth continuance of health, with proſperous eſtate and fœlicitie.

IF THIS WOORKE WERE FULLY PERformed with lyke eloquence and connyng of endyting by me in Engliſhe, as it was written by Thauthor thereof in his moother toonge, it might perchaunce delight your honor too beſtowe ſome vacant tyme in the reading of it, for the nomber of excellent deuiſes and fyne inuentions contriued in the ſame, purporting outwardly moſte pleaſant tales & delectable hiſtories, and fraughted inwardlye with moſte piththie inſtructions and wholſome examples, and conteynyng bothe wayes moſte exquiſite connynge and deepe knowledge. wherefore too counteruayle my default, I requeſt moſte humblye the benefyte of your L. fauor, whereby you are woont not onlye too beare with the want of ſkill and rudeneſſe of ſuche as commit their doonges too your protection, but alſo are woont too encourage them to proceede in their peynfull exerciſes attempted of a zeale and deſyre too enryche their natiue language with thinges not hertoofore publiſhed in the ſame. Thaſſured hope and confidẽce wherof, (furthered by the priuiledge of the new yeere, which of an auncient and laudable cuſtome, licenceth men too teſtifye their good willes, not only too their friendes and acquaintance, but alſo too their betters and ſuperiours, by preſentes though neuer ſo ſimple,) giueth me boldneſſe too dedicate this my maymed and vnperfect tranſlation of the firſte fower bookes of Ouids Metamorphoſis vntoo your honor, and too offer it vnto you for a poore Newyeres gift, I confeſſe, not correſpondent too your worthyneſſe, or my deſyre, but yet agreable too the ſtate of the giuer. The which if it maye pleaſe you too take in good part, I accompt my former trauell herin ſufficiently recompenſed, and think myſelf greatly enforced too perſeuer in the full accompliſhement of all the whole woorke. And thus beeſeeching God too ſend your Honor many proſperous & ioyfull Newyeres: I ceaſe too trouble you any further at this tyme. At Cecill houſe, the. xxiij. of December, Anno. 1564.

Your good L. moſt humbly too commaund
Arthur Goldyng.

Too the Reader.

Woold not wish the simple sort offended for too bee,
When in this booke the heathen names of feined Goddes they see.
The trewe and euerliuyng God the Paynims did not knowe:
which caused them the name of Goddes on creatures too bestowe.
For nature beyng ones corrupt and knowledge blynded quight
by Adams fall, those little seedes and sparkes of heauenly light
That dyd as yet remayne in man, endeuoryng foorth too burst
And wanting grace and power too growe too that they were at furst,
too Superstition did decline: and draue the fearfull mynd,
straunge woorshippes of the liuyng God in creatures for too fynd.
The which by custoome takyng roote, and growing so too strength,
through Sathans help possest the harts of all the world at length.
Some woorshipt all the hoste of Heauen: some deadmennes ghostes and bones:
Some wicked fiendes: some woormes and fowles, herbes, fishes, trees and stones.
The fyre, the ayre, the sea, the land, and euery roonnyng brooke,
Eche queachie groue, eche cragged cliffe the name of Godhead tooke.
The nyght and day, the fleetyng howres, the seasons of the yeere,
And euery straunge and monstruous thing, for Goddes mistaken weere.
There was no vertue, no nor vice: there was no gift of mynd
or boodie, but some god thertoo or goddesse was assignde.
Of health and sickneesse, lyfe and death, of needinesse and wealth,
Of peace and warre, of loue and hate, of murder, craft and stealth,
Of bread and wyne, of slouthfull sleepe, and of their solemne games,
And euery other tryfling toy their Goddes dyd beare the names.
And looke how euery man was bent too goodnesse or too ill,
He dyd surmyse his fooliſh Goddes enclyning too his will.
For God perceiuyng mannes peruers and wicked will too synne
Did giue him ouer too his lust too sinke or swym therin.
By meanes wherof it came too passe (as in this booke ye see)
that all their goddes with whoordome, theft, or murder blotted bee.
Which argues them too bee no goddes, but woorser in effect
than they whoose open poonnyshment their dooinges dooth detect.
Whoo seeing Ioue whom heathen folke doo arme with triple fyre
In shape of Agle, bull or swan too wynne his foule desyre?
Or grisly Mars their god of warre intangled in a net
By Venus husband purposely too trappe him warely set?
Whoo seeing Saturne eatyng vp the children he begate?
Or Venus dalying wantonly with euery lustie mate?

Whoo seeing Iuno play the scold: or Phœbus moorne and rew
For losse of her whom in his rage through iealous moode he slew?
Or else the suttle Mercurie that beares the charmed rod
Conueying neate and hyding them: woold take him for a God?
For if theis faultes in mortall men doo iustly merit blame,
What greater madnesse can there bee than too impute the same
Too Goddes: whooe natures ought too bee most perfect, pure and brighe,
Most vertuous, holly, chaast and wyse, most full of grace, & lyght?
But as there is no Christen man that can surmyse in mynd
That theis or oother such are Goddes which are no Goddes by kynde:
So woold tōo God there were not nowe of christen men profest,
That woorshipt in their deedes theis goddes whose names they doo detest.
Whoose lawes wee keepe his thralles wee bee, and he: our God indeede,
So long is Christ our God as wee in christen lyfe proceede.
But if wee yeeld too fleshlye lust, too lucre, or too wrath,
Or if that Enuy, Gluttonye, or Pryde the maystry hath,
Or any other kynd of synne, the thing the which wee serue,
Too bee accompted for a God most iustly dooth deserue.
Then must wee thinke the learned men that did theis names frequent,
Some further thinges and purposes by those deuises meant.
By Ioue and Iuno vnderstand all states of princelye port:
By Ops and Saturne auncient folke that are of elder sort:
By Phœbus yoong and lusty brutes of hand and courage stout:
By Mars the valeant men of warre that loue to feight it out:
By Pallas and the famous troope of all the Muses nyne,
Such folke as in the sciences and vertuous artes doo shyne.
By Mercurie the suttle sort that loue too filtch and lye,
With theues, and Merchantes whoo too gayne, their trauell doo applye.
By Bacchus all the meaner trades and handycraftes are meant:
By Venus such as of the flesshe too fylthie lust are bent.
By Neptune such as keepe the Seas: By Phebes maydens chaast,
And Pilgrims such as wandringly their tyme in trauell waste.
By Pluto such as delue in mynes, and Ghostes of persones dead:
By Vulcane Smythes and such as woorke in yron, tynne or lead.
By Hecat witches, Conurers, and Necromancers reede:
With all such vaine and deuilish artes as superstition breede.
By Satyres, Siluanes, Nymphes, and Faunes with oother such beesyde,
The playne and simple Countrie folke that euerywhere abyde.
I know theis names too other thynges oft may and must agree
In declaracion of the which I will not tedious bee.

But

But leaue them too the Readers will too take in sundry wyse,
As matter rysing giueth cause constructions too deuise.
Now when thoureadest of God or man,in stone,in beast,or tree,
It is a myrror for thyselfe thyne owne estate too see.
For vnder feyned Names of Goddes it was the Poëtes guyse,
The vice and faultes of all estates too taunt in couettwyse.
And likewyse too extoll with prayse such thynges as doo deserue.
obseruyng alwayes comlynesse from which they doo not swarue.
And as the persone greater is of birth,renowne or fame,
The greater euer is his laud,or fouler is his shame.
For if the States that on the earth the roome of God supply,
Declyne from vertue vntoo vice and liue disorderly,
Too Aegles,Tygres,Bulles,and Beares,and oother figures straunge
bothe too their people and themselues most hurtfull,doo they chaunge.
And when the people giue themselues too fylthie lyfe and synne,
What oother kynd of shape therby than fylthie can they winne?
So was Licaön made a Woolf:& Ioue beecame a bull:
The tone for vsyng crueltie,the toother for his trull.
So was Elpenor and his mates transformed intoo swyne,
For followyng of their fylthie lust in women and in wyne.
Not that they lost their manly shape as too the outward showe.
But for that in their brutish brestes most beastly lustes did growe.
For why this lumpe of flesh and bones this bodye is not wee.
Wee are a thyng which earthly eyes denyed are too see.
Our soule is wee endewed by God with Reason from aboue:
Our bodie is but as our house,in which wee woorke and mone.
Tone part is common too vs all, with God of heauen himself:
The toother common with the beastes,a vyle and stinking pelf.
The tone beedect with heauenly giftes,and endlesse:toother grosse,
Fraylie,filthie,weake,and borne too dye as made of earthly drosse.
Now looke how longe this clod of clay too reason dooth obey,
So long for men by iust desert accompt our selues wee may.
But if wee suffer fleshly lustes as lawlesse lordes too reigne,
Than are wee beastes,wee are no men,wee haue our name in vaine.
And if wee bee so drownd in vice that feeling ones bee gone,
Then may it well of vs be sayd,wee are a blocke or stone.
This surely did the Poets meane when in such sundry wise
the pleasant tales of turned shapes they studied too deuise.
Their purpose was too profit men,and also too delight
and so too handle euery thing as best might like the sight.

For as the Image portrayd out in ſimple whight and blacke
(Though well proportiond, trew and faire) if comly colours lacke,
Delyghteth not the eye ſo much, nor yet contentes the mynde
ſo much as that that ſhadowed is with colours in his kynde:
Euen ſo a playne and naked tale or Storie ſimply told
(Although the matter bee in deede of valew more than gold,)
Makes not the hearer ſo attent too print it in his hart,
As when the thing is well declarde, with pleaſant termes and art.
All which the Poëtes knew right well: and for the greater grace,
As Perſian kynges did neuer go abrode with open face,
But with ſome lawne or ſiken ſkarf, for reuerens of their ſtate:
Euen ſo they following in their woorkes the ſelfſame trade and rate,
Did vnder couert names and termes their doctrines ſo emplye,
As that it is right darke and harde their meaning too eſpye.
But beeing fownd it is more ſweete and makes the mynd more glad,
than if a man of tryed gold a Threaſure gayned had.
For as the bodie hath his ioy in pleaſant ſmelles and ſightes:
Lykewiſe in knowledge and in artes the mynd as much delightes,
Wherof abundant hoordes and heapes in Poëtes packed beene
ſo hyd that (ſauyng vntoo fewe) they are not too bee ſeene.
And therfore whoſo dooth attempt the Poëtes woorkes too reede,
muſt bryng with him a ſtayed head and iudgement too proceede.
For as there bee moſt wholſome heſtes and preceptes too bee found,
So are there rockes and ſhallowe ſhelues too renne the ſhippe a ground.
Some naughtie perſone ſeing vice ſhewd lyuely in his hew,
Dooth take occaſion by and by like vices too enſew.
Another beyng more ſeuere than wiſdome dooth requyre,
Beeholding Vice (too outward ſhewe) exalted in deſyre,
Condemneth by and by the booke and him that did it make,
and willes it too bee burnd with fyre for leud examples ſake.
Theis perſons ouerſhote themſelues, and other folkes deceiue:
Not able of the Authors mynd the meanyng too conceyue.
The Authors purpoſe is too paint and ſet before our eyes
the lyuely Image of the thoughts that in our ſtomackes ryſe.
Eche vice and vertue ſeemes too ſpeake and argue too our face,
With ſuch perſwaſions as they haue their dooinges too embrace.
And if a wicked perſone ſeeme, his vices too exalt,
Eſteeme not him that wrate the woorke in ſuch defaultes too halt.
But rather with an vpright eye conſyder well thy thought:
See if corrupted nature haue the lyke within thee wrought.

Marke

Marke what affection dooth perſwade in euery kynd of mattes:
Iudge if that euen in heynous crymes thy fancy doo not flatter.
And were it not for dread of lawe or dread of God aboue,
Moſt men(I feare) woold doo the thinges that fond affections moue.
Then take theis woorkes as flagrant flowers moſt full of pleaſaunt ſmell.
The whiche the Bee conueyng home may put too wholſome vſe:
And which the ſpyder ſucking on too poyſon may conuert,
Through venym ſpred in all her lymbes and natiue in her hart.
For to the pure and godly mynde,are all thynges pure and cleene,
And vntoo ſuch as are corrupt the beſt corrupted beene:
Lyke as the fyneſt meates and drinkes that can bee made by art
In ſikly folkes too nourriſhment of ſikneſſe doo conuert.
And therfore not regardyng ſuch whoſe dyet is ſo fyne
That nothing can digeſt with them onleſſe in be denine,
Nor ſuch as too their propre harme doo wreſt and wryng awrye
the thinges that too a good intent are written pleaſauntlye,
I purpoſe nowe (if God permit) as here I haue beegonne,
So through al Ouids turned ſhapes with reſtleſſe race too ronne,
Vntill ſuch tyme as bringing him acquainted with our toong,
He may a lyke in Engliſh verſe as in his owne bee ſoong:
wherin although for pleaſant ſtyle,I cannot make account,
Too matche Myne authour,whoo in that all oother dooth ſurmount:
Yet(gentle reader) doo I truſt my trauell in this cace
May purchace fauor in thy ſight my dooinges too embrace:
Conſidryng what a Sea of goodes and Iewelles thou ſhalt fynd,
Not more delightfull too the eare then frutefull too the mynd.
For this doo lerned perſons deeme,of Ouids preſent woorke:
That in no one of all his bookes the which he wrate, doo lurke
Mo darke and ſecret miſteries, mo counſelles wyſe and ſage,
Mo good enſamples,mo reproofes of vice in youth and age,
Mo fyne inuentions too delight,mo matters clerkly knyt,
No nor more ſtraunge varietie too ſhewe a lerned wit.
The highe,the lowe:the rich the poore:the maiſter,and the ſlaue:
the mayd,the wyfe:the man,the childe:the ſimple,and the braue:
the yoong,the old.the good, the bad:the warriour ſtrong and ſtout:
The wyſe,the foole: the countrie cloyne:the lerned, and the lout:
And euery other liuyng wight ſhall in this mirrour ſee
His whole eſtate,thoughtes,woordes and deedes expreſly ſhewd too bee.
Moreouer you may fynd herin deſcriptions of the tymes:
With conſtellacions of the ſtarres and planettes in their clymes:

The Sites of Countries, Cities, hilles, seas, foreſts, playnes and floods:
the natures both of fowles, beaſtes, wormes, herbes, mettals, ſtones & woods
and finally what euer thinge is ſtraunge and delectable,
the ſame conueyed ſhall you find moſt featly in ſome fable.
And euen as in a chaine eche linke within another winds,
and both with that that went beefore and that that folowes binds:
So euery tale within this booke dooth ſeeme too take his ground
of that that was reherſt before, and enters in the bound
of that that folowes after it: and euery one geues light
too other: ſo that whoſo meanes too vnderſtand them right,
muſt haue a care as well too know the thing that went before,
as that the which hee preſently deſires too ſee ſo fore.
Now too thintent that none haue cauſe hereafter too complaine
of mee as ſetter foorth of things that are but light and vaine,
If any ſtomacke bee ſo weake as that it cannot brooke
the liuely ſetting foorth of things deſcribed in this booke,
I geue him counſell too abſtaine vntill hee bee more ſtrong,
and for too vſe Vliſſes feat againſt the Meremaids ſong.
Or if hee needes will heere and ſee and wilfully agree
(through cauſe miſconſtrued) vntoo vice allured for too bee,
then let him alſo marke the peine that dooth thereof enſue,
and hold himſelfe content with that that too his fault is due.

FINIS.

OF shapes transformed to bodies strange I purpose to entreate,
Ye gods vouchsafe (for you ar they ẏ wrought this wõderous feate)
To further this mine enterprise, And from the worlde begunne,
Graunte that my verse may to my tyme, his course directly runne.
Before the Sea & Lande were made, and Heauen that all doth hyde,
In all the worlde one onely Face of Nature dyd abide.
Whiche Chaos hight, a huge rude heape, and nothing else but euen
A heauie lump and clottered clod of sedes together driuen,
Of thinges at strife amonge them selues for want of order due.
No Sonne as yet with lightsome beames the shapelesse world did viewe.
No Moone in growing did repaire her hornes with borowed light.
Nor yet the Earth amiddes the aire did hange by wonderous slyght.
Iust peised by her proper weight. Nor winding in and out
Dyd Amphitritee with her armes embrace the earth about.
For where was Earth was Sea and Aire, so was the earth vnstable,
The Aire all darke, the Sea likewise to beare a shippe vnable.
No kinde of thing had proper shape, but eache confounded other.
For in one selfe same body stroue, the whot and colde together.
The moyst with dry, the soft with hard, the light with things of weight.
This strife did God and Nature breake, and set in order streight.
The Earth from Heauen, the Sea from Earth he parted orderly,
And from the thicke and foggie aire, he toke the lightsome Skye.
Whiche when he once vnfolded had, and seuered from the blinde
And clodded heape, He settinge eche from other dyd them binde
In endelesse friendshippe to agree. The Fire most pure and bright,
The substance of the Heauen it selfe, because it was so lyght
Dyd mount aloft, and set it selfe in highest place of all.
The seconde rome of right to aire, for lyghtnesse dyd befall.
The earth more grosse drew down with it eche weighty kinde of matter,
And set it selfe in lowest place. Ageine the wauing water
Dyd lastly chalenge for his place the vtmost coast and bounde,
Of all the compasse of the Earth, to close the stedfast grounde.
Nowe when he in this foresaid wyse (what God so ere he was)
Had broke and into members put this rude confused masse,
Then first because in euery parte, the Earth shoulde equall be,
He made it like a mighty ball in compasse as we se.
And here and there he cast in Seas, to whom he gaue a lawe:
To swell with euery blast of wynde and euery stormy flawe.
And with their wanes continually to beate vpon the shore,
Of all the earth within their boundes enclosde by them afore.

Moreouer Springes and mighty Meeres and Lakes he did augment.
And flowinge streames of crooked brookes in windinge bankes he pent.
Of whiche the earthe dooth drynke vp some, and some with restlesse race,
Doo seeke the sea: where finding scope of larger roome and space,
In steade of banckes they beate on shores. Hee did cõmaund the playne
And champion groundes too stretche out wide: & valleys to remayne
Aye vnderneath: and eke the woodes to hyde them decently
With tender leaues: and stonny hilles to lyft them selues on hie.
And as twoo Zones doo cut the Heauen vpon the righter syde,
And other twaine vpon the left likewise the same deuide,
The middle in outragious heate exceding all the rest:
Euen so likewise throughe great foresight too God it seemed best,
The Earth encluded in the same shoulde so deuided bee,
As with the number of the Heauen, her Zones myght full agree.
Of whiche the middle Zone in heate, the vtmost twaine in colde
Exceede so farre, that there too dwell no creature dare be bolde.
Betwene these twoo so great extreames, twoo other Zones are fyxt,
Where temprature of heate and colde indifferently is mixt.
Nowe ouer this dooth hange the Ayre, whiche as it is more sleightie
Then Earth or water: so againe then fyre it is more weightie
There hathe he placed myst and clowdes, & for too feare mennes mindes,
The thunder and the lyghtning eke, with colde and blustring windes.
But yet the maker of the worlde permitteth not alway,
The windes too vse the ayre at will. For at this present day,
Though eche from other placed bee in sundry coastes aside:
The violence of their boystrous blastes, thinges scarsly can abyde.
They so turmoyle as though they wolde the worlde in peces rend,
Soo cruell is those brothers wrath when that they doo contend.
And therefore too the morning graye, the Realme of Nabathye,
Too Persis and too other landes and countreis that doo lye
Farre vnderneath the mornynge starre, dyd Curus take his flyght
Lykewise the setting of the Sonne, and shutting in of night
Belonge to Zephir. And the blasts of blustring Boreas reigne,
In Scythia and in other landes set vnder Charles his wayne.
And vnto Auster dothe belong the coast of all the Sowthe,
Whoo beareth showres and rotten mystes, continuall in his mowthe.
Aboue all these he set aloft the clere and lightsome Skye,
Without all dregges of earthly fylth or grosseneste vtterly.
The boundes of thinges were skarsly yet by hym thus poynted out,
But that appered in the Heauen, starres glystring all about,
Whiche in the saide confused heape had hidden ben before.
And too thintent with lyuely thynges eche Region for too store,
The Heauenly foyle, too Godds and Starres and Planets first he gaue.

The waters

The waters nert both freſhe and ſalte hee let the fyſhes haue.
The ſuttle Ayre too flyckering fowles and byrdes hee hath aſſignd,
The Earth too beaſtes bothe wylde and tame of ſundry ſorte & kinde.
Howbeit yet of all this while, the creature wanting was,
Farre more deuine, of nobler minde, which ſhoulde the reſidue paſſe
In depth of knowledge, reaſon, wytte, and highe capacitee,
And whiche of all the reſidew ſhoulde the lorde and ruler bee.
Then eyther hee that made the worlde, and tolnges in order ſet,
Of heauenly ſeede engendred Man: or elſe the Earth as yet
Younge, luſty, freſhe, and in her flowres, and parted from the Skie,
But late before, the ſeede therof as yet he de inwardlye.
The whiche Prometheus temperyng ſtrait with water of the ſpryng,
Dyd make in likeneſſe too the Goodes that gouerne euery thinge.
And where all other beaſtes beholde the grounde with groueling eie,
He gaue too Man a ſtately looke replete with maieſtie.
And wyld hym too beholde the heauen with countenaunce caſt on hye,
Too marke and vnderſtande what thinges were in the ſtarry Skye.
And thus the Earth whiche late before had neyther ſhape nor hew,
Dyd take the noble ſhape of man, and was tranſformed newe.
Then ſprange vp fyrſt the golden Age, whiche of it ſelfe mainteind,
The truth and right of euery thing vnforſt and vnconſtreind.
There was no feare of ponnifhment, there was no threatning lawe,
In brazen tables nayled vp, too keepe the folke in awe.
There was no man would crowche or creepe too iudge with cap in hand,
They lyued ſaufe without a iudge in euery realme and lande.
The loftie Pynetree was not hewen from mountaines where it ſtood,
In ſeeking ſtrange and forrein landes, too roue vpon the flood.
Men knewe none other countreis yet, then where them ſelues dyd keepe.
There was no towne enclo.ed yet with walles and dyches deepe.
No horne nor trumpet was in vſe, no ſworde nor helmet worne,
The worlde was ſuche that ſouldiers helpe might eaſily bee forborne.
The fertile Earth as yet was free, vntoweht of ſpade or plowgoe,
And yet it yelded of it ſelfe of euery thinge ynough.
And men them ſelues contented well with plaine and ſymple foode,
That on the earth of natures gyft without their trauell ſtoode,
Did liue by Raſpis, heppes & haw es, by cornelles, plummes, & cherries,
By ſloes and apples, nuttes & peares, and lothſome bramble berries,
And by the acornes dropt on grounde from Ioues brode tree in fielde.
The Sprangetime laſted all the yere. and zephyr with his mylde
And gentle blaſt dyd cherryſhe thinges that grewe of owne accorde,
The grounde vntylde all kynde of fruites dyd plenteouſly aworde.
No mucke nor tyllage was beſtowde on leane and barraine lande,
Too make the corne of better head, and ranker for too ſtande.

Thē ſtreames ran milke, then ſtreames ran wine, & yellow honny flowde
From eche greene tree wheron the rayes of firye Phebus glowde.
But when that into Lymbo once Saturnus being thruſt,
The rule and charge of all the worlde was vnder Ioue vniuſt,
And that the Syluer Age came in more somewhat baſe then golde,
More precious yet then freckled braſſe, immediatly the olde
And auncient Spring dyd Ioue abridge, and made thereof anon,
Fower ſeaſons: Winter, Sommer, Spryng, and Autumne of and on.
Then fyrſt of all began the Ayre with feruent heate to ſwelt.
Then Iſycles hunge roping downe: then for the colde was felt
Men gan to ſhroud themſelues in houſe. their houſes were the thyckes,
And buſhie queaches, hollow canes, or bardels made of ſtickes.
Then fyrſt of all wer forrowes drawen, and corne was caſt in ground.
The ſymple Or with forye ſyghes, to beaute yoke was bound.
Here after this ſucceded ſtreight, the third and brazen Age:
More hard of nature somewhat bent, to cruell warres and rage.
But yet not wholly paſt all grace. Of yron is the laſt
In no part good and tractable as former ages paſt.
For when that of this wicked Age ones opened was the veyne,
Therin all miſchief ruſhed forthe. then Faithe and Truthe were faine
And honeſt ſhame to hyde theyr heades: for whom ſtept ſtoutly in,
Craft, Treaſon, Violence, Enuye, pryde and wicked Luſt to wynne.
The ſhypman hoyſt hys ſayles to wynd, whoſe names he dyd not knowe:
And ſhyppes that erſte in toppes of hylles and mountaynes had ygrowe,
Dyd leape and daunce on vncouth waues: and men began to bound,
With bowles and diches drawen in length the free and fertile ground,
Which was as common as the Aire, and light of Sunne before.
Not onely corne and other fruites, for ſuſtenaunce and for ſtore,
Were now eracted of the Earth: but eſt they ganne to digge,
And in the bowelles of the grounde, vnſaciably to rygge.
For Riches cowcht and hydden deepe, in places neere to Hell,
The ſpurres and ſtyrrers vnto vice, and foes to dooyng well.
Then hurtful yron came abrode, then came forth yellow golde,
More hurtfull then the yron farre. then came forthe battell bolde,
That feightes with bothe, and ſhakes his ſword in cruell blodye hand.
Men lyue by rauyne & by ſtelthe: the wandring gueſt doth ſtand
In daunger of his hoſt: the hoſt in daunger of his gueſt:
And fathers of their ſonne in lawes: yea ſeldome tyme doth reſt,
Betweene borne brothers ſuch accord and loue as ought to bee.
The goodman ſekes the goodwyues death, and his againe ſekes thee.
The ſtepdames fel their houſbandes ſonnes, with poyſon doe aſſayle.
To ſee their fathers lyue ſo long the children doe bewayle.
All godlyneſſe lyes vnder foote. And Lady Aſtrey laſt

Of Heauenly vertues, from this Earth in slaughter drowned past.
And too thintent the Earth alone thus should not bee opprest,
And Heauen aboue in slouthfull ease and carelesse quiet reste,
¶ Men say that Giantes went about the Realme of Heauen to wyn
Too place them selues too reigne as Goddes and lawlesse lordes therein,
And hyll on hyll they heaped vp aloft vnto the skye.
Tyll God almighty from the Heauen did let his thunder flye.
The dint wherof the ayrie toppes of highe Olympus brake,
And pressed Pelion violently from vnder Ossa strake.
When whelmed in their wicked worke those cursed kaitiues lay,
The Earthe their mother toke their bloud yet warme and (as they say)
Dyd geue it lyfe. And for because som ympes shoulde still remaine
Of that same stocke, she gaue it shape and lymbes of men againe.
This offspryng eke against the Goddes did beare a natyue spight,
In slaughter and in doing wronge was all their whole delight.
Their deedes declared them of blood engendered for to bee.
The whiche as soone as Saturnes sonne from Heauen aloft dyd see,
He fetcht a sighe, and therwithall reuoluing in his thought
The shamefull act whiche at a feast Lycaon late had wrought,
As yet vnknowne or blowne abrode: He gan therat to storme
And stomake lyke an angry Ioue. And therfore to reforme
Suche heynous actes, he sommond streight his court of Parliament,
Wherto resorted all the Goddes that had their sommons sent.
Hyghe in the welkyn is a waye apparant to the syght
In Starry nyghtes, whiche of his passing whitenesse mylkie hight:
It is the streete that to the Courte and princely Palace leades,
Of mighty Ioue whose thunderclappes eche liuyng creature dreades.
On bothe the sydes of this same waye do stande in stately port
The sumptuous houses of the Pieres. For all the common sort
Dwell scatteryng heere and there abrode: the face of all the Skye,
The howses of the chiefe estates and prynces doo supplye.
And sure and if I may be bolde too speake my fancie free
I take this place of all the heauen the Palace for to bee.
Nowe when the Goddes assembled were, and eche had tane his place,
Ioue standinge vp aloft and leanyng on his yuorie mace,
Ryght dreadfully his busshie lokes did thrise or foure times shake,
Wherwith he made both Sea and Land & Heauen it self to quake,
And afterwarde in wrathful woordes his angrie minde thus brake.
I neuer was in greatter care nor more perplexitie,
Howe to mainteine my soueraine state and princely royaltie,
When with their hundred handes a piece the adderfooted rout,
Did practise for to conquere heauen and for to cast vs out.
For though it were a cruell foo: yet dyd that warre depend

Upon one grownde, and in one flocke it had his finall end.
But nowe as farre as any sea about the worlde doth winde,
I muste destroy bothe man and beast and all the mortall kinde.
I sweare by Stires hydeous streames that runne within the grownde,
All other meanes must fyrst be sought: but when there can be sownde
No helpe too heale a festred sore, it must away be cut,
Least that the partes that yet are sownde, in daunger shoolde be put.
Wee haue a numbre in the worlde that mannes estate surmounte,
Of suche whom for their priuate Goddes the countrey folkes accompte,
As Satyres, Faunes, and sundry Nymphes, with Syluanes eke beside,
That in the woodes and hylly grownds contynually abyde.
Whom into Heauen syns that as yet wee vouchsafe to take,
And of the honour of this place copartenerys for too make,
Suche landes as too enhabite in, wee earst too them assignd,
That they shoulde styll enioy the same. It is my wyll and minde:
But can you thincke that they in rest and sauftie shall ramayne:
When prowd Lycaon laye in wayte by secret meanes and traine:
Too haue confounded mee your lorde, whoo in my hande doo beare
The dreadfull Thunder and of whom euen you doo stande in feare:
The howse was moued at his wordes and earnestly required,
The man that had so trayterously against their lorde conspired.
Euen so when rebelles dyd arise too stroy the Romaine name,
By sheadyng of our Caesars blood, the horrour of the same,
Dyd perce the hartes of all mankinde, and made the worlde too quake.
Whose feruent zeale in thy behalfe (O August) thou dyd take,
As thanckefully as Ioue dooth here the louinge care of hys.
Whoo beckening too them with his hand, forbiddeth thē too bisse.
And therewithall throughe all the howse attentiue silence is.
Assoone as that his maiestie all mutterynge had alaide,
He brake the silence once againe, and thus vntoo them saide.
Let passe this carefull thought of yours: for he that dyd offende,
Hath derely bowght the wicked act, the whiche he dyd entende.
Yet shall you here what was his fault and vengeaunce for the same.
A fowle reporte and infamie vntoo our hearing came,
Of myschiefe vsed in those tymes: whiche wishinge all vntrewe
I did descende in shape of man, thinfamed Earth too viewe.
It were a processe ouer longe too tell you of the synne,
That dyd abownde in euery place where as I entered in.
The bruite was lesser then the trewth, and parciall in reporte.
The dreadfull dennes of Menalus where sauage beastes resorte
And Cyllen had I ouerpast, with all the Pynetrees hye,
Of colde Lycæus, and from thence I entred by and by
The herbroughlesse and cruell howse of late Tharcadien kynge,

Suche

Suche tyme as twylight on the Earth dym darckeneſſe gan too bring.
I gaue a ſigne that god was come, and ſtreight the common ſorte,
Deuoutly prayde whereat Lycaon fyrſt dyd make a ſporte,
And after ſaide by open proofe, ere longe I mynde too ſee,
If that this wyght a mighty God or mortall creature bee.
The trewth ſhall trye it ſelfe: he ment (the ſequele dyd declare)
Too ſteale vpon mee in the nyght, and kyll mee vnbeware.
And yet he was not ſo content: but went and cut the throte,
Of one that laye in hoſtage there, whiche was an Epyrote:
And parte of hym he dyd too roſt, and parte he dyd too ſeiwe.
Whiche when it came vpon the boorde, forthwith I ouerthrewe,
The howſe with iuſt reuenging fyre vppon the owners headde.
Whoo ſeinge that, flypt out of doores amazde for feare, and fledde
Intoo the wylde and deſert woodes, where beyng all alone,
As hee endeuored (but in vayne) too ſpeake and make his moone,
Hee fell a howlinge: wherwithall for very rage and moode
Hee ran mee quite out of his wittes and wared furious woode.
Still practiſynge his wonted luſte of ſlaughter on the poore,
And ſely cattell, thyrſtinge ſtill for bloodde as heretofore.
His garmentes turned too ſhackie heare, his armes too rugged pawes:
So is he made a rauenyng wulfe: whoſe ſhape expreſſly drawes
Too that the whiche he was before: his ſkynne is hory graye,
His looke ſtill grym with glaryng eyes, and euery kynde of waye,
His cruell harte in outwarde ſhape dooth well it ſelfe bewraye.
Thus was one howſe deſtroyed quite. but that one howſe alone
Deſerueth not too be deſtroyde, in all the Earth is none,
But that ſuche vyce dooth raigne therin, as that ye wolde beleeue,
That all had ſworne and ſolde them ſelues too miſchiefe bs too greeue.
And therefore as they al offende: ſo am I fully bent,
That all forthwith (as they deſerue) ſhall haue dwe ponniſhment.
These woordes of Ioue ſomme of the Goddes dyd openly approue,
And with their ſayinges more too wrath his angry courage moue.
And ſome dyd geue aſſent by ſignes. Yet dyd it greeue them all
That ſuche deſtruction vtterly on all mankinde ſhoulde fall.
Demaundynge what he purpoſed with all the Earth too doo,
When that he had all mortall men ſo cleane deſtroyde, and whoo
On holly altars afterwarde ſhoulde offer frankenſens,
And whether that he were in mynde too leaue the Earth fro thens
Too ſauage beaſtes too waſt and ſpoyle, becauſe of mannes offence.
The kyng of Gods bade ceaſe their thought & queſtions in that caſe,
And caſt the care therof on hym. within a lyttle ſpace,
Hee promyſt for too frame a newe, an other kynde of men
By wondrous meanes, vnlike the firſt too fyll the worlde agen.

And

And nowe his lightning had he thought on all the Earth too throwe,
But that he feared leaſt the flames perhappes ſoo hys ſhoulde growe
As for too ſette the Heauen on fyre, and burne vp all the ſkye.
Hee dyd remember furthermore howe that by deſtinie,
A certayne tyme ſhoulde one day come, wherein bothe Sea and Londe
And Heauen it ſelfe ſhoulde feele the force of Vulcanes ſcorching bronde.
So that the huge and goodly worke of all the worlde ſoo wyde
Shoulde goo to wrecke. for doubt wherof forthwith hee laide aſide,
His weapons that the Cyclops made, intending too correct,
Mannes treſpaſſe by a puniſhement contrary in effect.
And namely with inceſſant ſhowres from heauen ypoored downe,
Hee did determine with hym ſelfe, the mortall kynde too drowne.
In Aeolus pyrlon by and by he fettred Boreas faſt, (blaſt,
With all ſuche wyndes as chaſe the cloudes or breake the with their
And ſet at large the Southerne wind: whoo ſtraight with watry wings
And dreadfull face as blacke as pitche, forthe out of pyſon flings.
His beard hung full of hydeous ſtormes, all dankiſhe was his head,
With water ſtreaming downe his heare that on his ſhulders ſhead.
His dgly forehead wrincled was with foggy miſtes full thicke,
And on his fethers and his breſt a ſtilling dewe dyd sticke.
As ſoone as hee betwene his handes the hanging cloudes had cruſht,
With ratling noyſe adowne from heauen the raine full ſadly guſht.
The Rainebowe Junos meſſenger bedect in ſundry hue,
To maintayne moyſture in the cloudes, great waters thither drew:
The corne was beaten to the grounde, the Tylmans hope of gayne.
For which he toyled all the yere, lay drowned in the rayne.
Joues indignacion and his wrath began to growe ſo whot,
That for to quenche the rage therof, his heauen ſufficed not.
His brother Neptune with his waues, was fayne to doo hym eaſe:
Who ſtrait aſſembling all the ſtreames, that fall into the Seas,
Sayd to them ſtandyng in his houſe: Sirs get you home a pace,
(you muſt not looke to haue me vſe, longe preachyng in this caſe.)
Powre out your force (for ſo is nede) your headdes eche one vnpende,
And from your open ſprynges your ſtreames with flowyng waters ſende.
He had no ſoener ſayd the word, but that returnyng backe,
Eche one of them vnloſde his ſpring, and let his waters flacke.
And to the Sea with flowyng ſtreames yſwolne aboue their bankes,
One rallyng in anothers necke, they ruſhed forth by rankes.
Himſelf with his thretyned mace, dyd lende the earth a blowe,
That made it ſhake and open wayes, for waters forth to flowe.
The flouddes at randon where they liſt, through all the fyelds dyd ſtray,
Men, beaſtes, trees, corne, & with their gods, were churches waſht away.
If any houſe wer buylt ſo ſtronge, agaynſt their force to ſtonde,

yet

Yet dyd the water hyde the toppe: and turrets in that ponde
Were ouerwhelmd: no differens was betwene the sea and grownde,
For all was sea: there was no shore nor landyng too bee fownde.
Some clymbed vp too toppes of hylles, and some rowde too and fro:
In boates, where they not longe before, too plough and cart dyd go.
One ouer corne and toppes of townes, whom waues dyd ouerwhelme,
Dooth sayle in shyppe, an other syttes a fishing in an Elme.
In medowes greene were Anchors cast (so fortune dyd prouyde)
And crooked shyppes dyd shadowe vynes, the whiche the flood dyd hide.
And where but tother daye before, dyd feede the hungry gote,
The vglye Seales and Porkepisces nowe too and fro dyd flote.
The Seanymphes wondred vnder waues the townes & groues too see,
And Dolphynes playd amonge the toppes and boughes of euery tree.
The grym and gredy wulfe dyd swym amonge the sely sheepe,
The lyon and the Tygre fierce were borne vpon the deepe.
It booted not the fomynge Boare his croked tuskes too whet,
The ronnyng harte coulde in the streame by swiftnesse nothing get.
The fleting fowles longe hauing sought for lande too rest vpon,
Intoo the Sea with weery wynges were driuen to fall anon.
Tholwtragious swellinge of the Sea the lesser hillockes drownde,
Unwonted waues on highest toppes of mountaines did rebownd.
The greatest parte of men were drownd, and suche as scapte the flood,
Forlorne with fasting ouerlonge dyd dye for want of food.
Ageinst the fieldes of Aonie and Atticke lyes a lande,
That Phocis highte, a fertile grownde while that it was a lande:
But at that time a parte of Sea, and euen a champion fielde,
Of sodaine waters whiche the flood by forced rage dyd yelde.
Where as a hyll with forked toppe the whiche Parnasus highte,
Dooth perce the clowdes and too the starres dooth raise his head vpright.
When at this hill (for yet the sea had whelmed all besyde)
Deucalion and his bedfellowe, without all other guyde,
Arriued in a lyttle Barke, immediately they went,
And too the Nymphes of Corycus with full deuoute intent
Dyd honour doe, and too the Goddes too whom that famous hyll
was sacred, and too Themis eke in whose most holy wyll,
Consisted then the Oracles. In all the worlde so rownde:
A better nor more rightuous man coulde neuer yet bee fownde
then was Deucalion: nor ageine a woman mayde nor wyfe,
that feared God so muche as shee, nor led so good a lyfe.
When Ioue beheelde how all the worlde stood like a plashe of raine,
And of so many thousande men and women dyd remayne
But one of eche, howbeit those both iust and both deuoute,
Hee brake the clowdes, and did commaunde that Boreas with his stowte

And sturdy blastes shoulde chace the flood, that Earth might see the Sky
and Heauen the Earth: The Seas also began immediatly
Their raging fury for too cease. Theyr ruler layde away
His dreadfull mace, and with his wordes their woodnesse dyd alay.
Hee called Tryton too hym strait his trompettour, whoo stood
In purple robe on sholder cast, aloft vppon the flood.
And bade him take his sownding Tromp and out of hande too bowe,
retreit, that al the streames might heare, and cease from thens too flowe.
Hee tooke his Trompet in his hande, his Trompet was a shell
Of some greate wheike or other fyshe, in fashion lyke a bell
That gathered narrow too the mouth, and as it dyd descende
Dyd ware more wyde and wythen styl, downe too the neather ende.
When that this Tromp amyd the Sea was set too Trytons mouthe,
Hee blew so lowd that all the streames both East, west, north, & South,
might easly heare hym blowe retreate, and all that heard the sownde
Immediatly began too ebbe and drawe within their bownde.
Then gan the sea too haue a shore and brookes too fynde a banke,
And swellynge streames of flowing floddes within their chanels sanke.
Then hylles dyd ryse aboue the wawes that had them ouerflowe,
And as the waters dyd decrease the grownde dyd seeme too growe.
And after longe and tedyous tyme the trees dyd shewe their toppes
all bare, saue that vppon the bowghes the mud dyd hange in knoppes.
The worlde restored was ageine, which thowgh Deucalion loyd
Then too beholde: yet forbecause hee sawe the Earth was voyd
and silent lyke a wylderneſſe, with sad and wepyng eyes
and ruthfull voyce hee than dyd speake too Pyrrha in this wyse.

O sister, o my louyng spowse, o sely woman left,
as onely remnant of thy ser that water hath bereft.

Whom Nature fyrst by right of byrthe hath lynked too mee fast
In that we brothers chyldren bene: and secondly the chaste
and stedfast bonde of lawfull bed: and lastly now of all,
the present perylles of the tyme that lately dyd befall.
On all the Earth from East too West where Phebus showes his face
There is no mo but thou and I of all the mortall race.
The Sea hath swallowed all the rest: and scarsly are wee sure,
That our twoo lyues from dreadfull death in sauftye shall endure.
For euen as yet the duskye clowdes doo make my hart adrad.
Alas poore wretched sely sowle, what hart wouldst thou haue had
To beare these beauye happes yf chaunce had let thee scape alone?
Whoo shold haue bene thy cõfort then? who should haue rewd thy mone?
Now truſt mee truly louyng wyfe had thou as nowe beene drowned,
I wolde haue followed after thee and in the Sea bene fowned.
Wold God I could my fathers art, of clay too fashion men

And

And geue them life that people might frequent the worlde agein.
Mankydde (alas) dooth onely now within vs twoo conſiſt,
as mouldes wherby too faſhion men. For ſo the Goddes doo lyſt.
And with theſe wordes the bytter teares did trickle down their cheke,
Antyll at length betwene them ſelues they dyd agree too ſeke
Too God by prayer for his grace, and too demaunde his ayde
By aunſwere of his Oracle. wherein they nothinge ſtayde.
But too Cephiſus ſadly went, whoſe ſtreame as at that tyme
Began too ronne within his bankes thowgh thicke with muddy ſlyme,
Whoſe ſacred lyquor ſtrait they tooke and ſprinkled with the ſame
Their heades and clothes: and afterwarde too Themis chapell came,
The roofe wherof with cyndrye moſſe was almoſt ouergrowen.
For ſyns the tyme the ragyng flood, the worlde had ouerflowen,
No creature came within the churche: ſo that the Altars ſtood
without one ſparke of holly fyre or any ſticks of wood.
Aſſoone as that this couple came within the chapell doore,
They fell downe flat vppon the grownde and trembling kyſt the floore.
And ſaide: if prayer that procedes from humble harte and mynde
may in the preſence of the Goddes ſuche grace and fauour fynde
as too appeaſe their worthy wrath, then vowch thou ſaufe too tell
(O gentle Themis) howe the loſſe that on our kynde befell,
Waye now eftſoones recouered bee, and helpe vs to repaire
the worlde whiche drowned vnder waues dooth lye in great diſpaire.
The Goddeſſe mouyd with their ſute this anſwere dyd them make:
Departe you hence: Go hylle your heades, and let your garmentes ſlake,
and bothe of you your Graundames bones behinde your ſholders caſt.
They ſtood amazed at theſe wordes, tyll Pyrra at the laſt,
Refuſing too obey the heſt the which the Goddeſſe gaue,
brake ſilens, and with trembling chere dyd mekely pardon craue.
For ſure ſhee ſaide ſhee was afraide her graundames ghoſt too hurte
By taking vp her buried bones too throwe them in the durt.
And with the anſwere herevpon eftſoones in hande they go,
the dowtfull wordes wherof they ſkan and cannas too and fro.
Whiche doone, Prometheus ſonne began by counſell wiſe and ſage
His couſyn germanes fearefulneſſe thus gently too aſſwage.
Well, eyther in theſe dowtfull wordes is hyd ſome miſtery,
whereof the Goddes permit vs not the meanyng too eſpy,
or queſtionleſſe and if the ſens of inward ſentens deme
Lyke as the tenour of the woordes apparantly doo ſeme,
It is no breache of godlyneſſe too doo as God dooth byd.
I take our Graundame for the Earthe, the ſtones within her hyd
I take for bones, theſe are the bonys the whiche are meaned here.
Thoughe Titans daughter at this wiſe coniecture of her ſers

Were ſomwhat moude, yet none of bothe dyd ſtedfaſt credit geeue,
So hardly could they in their hartes the heauenly heſtes beleeue.
But what and if they made a proofe? what harme coulde come therbye
They went their wayes and veild their heades, & did their cotes vnty.
And at their backes did throw the ſtones by name of bones foretolde.
The ſtones (whoo woulde beleeue the thing but that the tyme of olde,
Reportes it for a ſtedfaſt trewthe) of nature towghe and harde,
Began too war bothe ſofte and ſmoothe: and ſhortly afterwarde,
Too wynne therewith a better ſhape: and as they dyd encreaſe,
A mylder nature in them grewe, and rudencſſe gan too ceaſe.
For at the firſt their ſhape was ſuche, as in a certaine ſorte
Reſembled man, but of the right and perfect ſhape cams ſhorte.
Euen lyke too marble images, new drawen and rowghly wrought,
Before the keruer by his art too purpoſe hath them brought.
Suche partes of them where any iuce of moyſture dyd abownde,
Or elſe were Earthie, turned too fleſhe: and ſuche as were ſo ſound,
And harde as wouldе not bow nor bende dyd turne too bones: ageine
The parte that was a veine before, dooth ſtill his name reteine.
Thus by the myghty power of God, ere lenger time was paſt,
The mankynde was reſtorde by ſtones, the whiche a man dyd caſt.
And lykewiſe alſo by the ſtones the whiche a woman threw,
The womankinde repaired was and made ageine of new.
Of theſe are wee the crooked ympes, and ſtonny race in deede,
Bewrayinge by our toylyng lyfe from whens wee doo proceede.
The luſtie Earth of owne accorde ſoone after forth dyd brynge,
Accordynge too their ſundry ſhapes eche other lyuing thinge,
Aſſoone as that the moyſture once cawght heate ageinſt the Sonne,
And that the fat and ſlymy mud in mooryſhe grownde begonne,
Too ſwel through warmth of Phebus beames and that the fruteful ſeede
Of thinges well cherriſht in the fat and lively ſoyle in deede.
As in their moothers wombe, began in length of tyme too growe,
Too one or other kynde of ſhape wherin them ſelues too ſhowe.
Euen ſo when that ſeuen mowthed Nile the watry fieldes forſooke,
And too his auncient chanell eft his brydled ſtreames betooke.
So that the Sonne dyd heate the mud, the whithe bee left behynde,
The huſbandmen that tyld the grownde amonge the cloddes dyd fynde,
Of ſundrye creatures ſundry ſhapes: of whiche they ſpied ſome,
Euen in the inſtant of their byrth but newely then begonne.
And ſome vnperfect wanting brell or ſhoulders in ſuche wiſe,
That in one body often tymes appered too the eyes,
One halfe therof alиue too bee, and all the reſt beſyde
Both voyde of lyfe and femely ſhape, ſtarke eayth too ſtyll abyde.
For when that moyſture with the heate is temperd equally,

They

They doo conceyue: and of them twayne engendre by and by
All kynde of thinges. For though that fyre with water aye debateth,
yet moysture myxt with equall heate all liuing thinges createth.
And so those discordes in their kinde, one striuinge with the other,
In generation doo agree and make one parfect moother.
And therfore when the myrie Earthe bespred with slymy mud,
Browght ouer all but late before by violence of the flood,
Cawght heate by warmenesse of the sonne, and culmenesse of the Skye,
Thinges out of nomber in the worlde forthwith it dyd applye.
Whereof in parte the lyke before in former tymes had bene,
and some so straunge and ougly shapes as neuer erst were seene.
In that shee dyd suche monsters brede was greatly too her wo,
But yet thou ougly Python wert engendred by her tho,
A terror too the newe made folke, whiche neuer earst had knowen,
So fowle a Dragon in their life, so monstruously forgrowen,
So greate a grownde thy poyson paunche dyd vnderneath the hyde.
The God of shootinge whoo no where before that present tyde:
Those kynde of weapons put in vre, but at the speccled dere,
Or at the Roes so wyght of foote, a thowsande shaftes welnere,
Dyd on that hideous Serpent spende, of whiche there was not one,
But forced forthe the venymd blood alonge his sydes too gone.
So that his quiuer almost voyde hee naylde hym too the grownde,
and dyd him nobly at the last by force of shot confounde.
And least that tyme myght of this worke deface the worthy fame,
Hee did ordeine in mynde thereof a great and solemne game,
Which of the Serpent that hee slewe of Pythyans bare the name.
Where whooso coulde the maistry wynne in feates of strength or sleight,
Of hande or foote or rollyng wheele, might clayme too haue of right,
An oken garlande freshe and braue. There was not any where
as yet a Bay, by meanes whereof was Phebus faine too weare
The leaues of euery pleasant tree abowt his golden heare.
Peneian Daphnee was the fyrst where Phebus set his loue,
Which not blind chaũce but Cupids fierce & cruell wrath did moue.
The Delian God but late before surprisde with passynge pryde:
For kyllinge of the monstruous worme, the God of loue espide,
With bowe in hande alredy bent and letting arrowes go:
Too whom hee saide, and what hast thou thou wanton baby so
with warlike weapons for to toy? It were a better syght,
Too see this kinde of furniture on our twoo sholders bright:
Whoo when wee lyst with stedfast hande both man & beast can wounde,
Whoo toother day with arrowes keene haue nayled too the grownde,
The Serpent Python so forswolne, whose fylthy wombe dyd hyde,
So many acres of the grownde in whiche hee dyd abyde.

Content thy selfe sonne sory loues too kyndle with thy brande,
For these our prayses too attaine thou must not take in hande.
To hym quoth Venus sonne ageine, well Phebus I agree
Thy bowe too shoote at every beast and so shall myne at thee.
And looke how farre that vnder God eche beast is put by kynde,
so muche thy glory lesse then oures in shootyng shalt thou synde.
This saide, with dyrke of fethered wynges in broken ayre hee flewe,
And too the forkt and shady toppe of Mount Pernasus drewe.
There from his quyuer full of shaftes twoo arrowes dyd he take
of sundry workes: tone causeth Loue, the tother dooth it slake.
That causeth loue is all of golde with poynt full sharpe and bryght,
That chaceth loue is blunt, whose stele with leaden head is dyght.
The God this fired in the Nymph Peneis for the nones
the tother perst Apollos hart and ouerrakte his bones.
Immediatly in smoldring heate of Loue the tone dyd swelt,
Ageine the tother in her harte no sparke nor motion felte.
In woodes and forestes is her ioye the sauage beastes to chase,
and as the pryce of all her paine too take the skynne and case.
Unwedded Phebee dooth she haunt and followe as her guyde,
vnordred doo her tresses waue skars in a fyllet tyde:
Fullmany a wooer solwght her loue, shee lothynge all the rowte,
Impacient and without a man walkes all the woodes about.
And as for Hymen, or for loue, and wedlocke often sought
shee tooke no care, they were the furthest end of all her thought.
Her father many a tyme and oft wold say my dawghter deere,
Thou owest mee a sonneinlawe too be thy lawfull feere.
Her father many a tyme and oft wolde say my daughter deere,
Of Nephewes thou my dettour art their graundsires harte too cheere.
Shee hatynge as a heynous cryme the bonde of brydely bed
Demurely calling downe her eyes and blushing somewhat red,
Dyd folde about her fathers necke with faunyng armes and sed.
Deare father graunt mee while I lyue my maydenhead for too haue,
as too Diana heretofore her father freely gaue.
Thy father (Daphne) coulde consent too that thou dooste require,
But that thy beawty and thy forme impugne thy chaste desyre:
So that thy wyll and his consent are nothing in this case,
By reason of the beawtie bright that shineth in thy face.
Apollo loues and longes too haue this Daphne too his feere,
And as hee longes hee hopes, but his foredoomes doo fayle him there.
And as light hame when corne is rept, or hedges burne with brandes
that passers by when day drawes nere throwe loosely fro their handes,
So intoo flames the God is gone and burneth in his breste
and fedes his vayne and barreine loue in hopynge for the beste.

Her

Her heare vnkempt abowt her necke downe flaring dyd bee see
O lord and were they trymd (quod he how seemly would she bee.
Ye sees her eyes as bright as fire the starres too representent,
Ye sees her mouth which to haue seene hee holdes him not content.
Her lyke armes myd parte and more aboue the elbowes bare,
Her handes, her fingers and her wristes, hym thowght of beawty rare.
And sure hee thowght such other partes as garmentes then did hyde,
Excelled greatly all the rest the which hee had espyed.
But swifter then the whyrling wynd shee fleys and wil not stay,
Too giue the hearing too these wordes the which hee had too say.
I pray the Nymph Penæis stay I chace not as a fo:
Stay Nymph: the lambes so flye the wolues, the staggs the lyons so.
With flyttring fethers seke doues so from the Gossehauke flye
And euery creature from his foe. loue is the cause that I
Doo follow the: alas alas how wold it greue my hart,
Too se the fall among the brieres, and that the blood shold start,
Out of thy tender legges, I wretch the causer of thy smart,
The place is rough to which thou ronst, take leysure I the pray,
Abate thy flyght and I my self my ronnyng pace wyll stay.
Yet wold I wyshe thee take aduise, and wisely for to view
What one he is that for thy grace in humble wyse dooth sue.
I am not one that dwelles among the hylles and stonny rockes,
I am no shepeherde with a curre, attendyng on the flockes.
I am no Carle nor countrie cloyne, nor neateheard takyng charge
of cattell grazing here and there within thys forest large.
Thou doost not know poore simple sowle. God wot thou doost not know,
from whom thou flyste. For if thou knew thou woldst not fly mee so.
In Delphos is my chiefe abode, my Temples also stande
At Claros and at Patara within the Lycian Land.
And in the Ile of Tenedos the people honour mee.
The kyng of Goddes himselfe is knowen my father for too bee.
By mee is knowen that was, that is, and that that shall ensew,
by mee men learne too sundrye tunes too frame swete dities true.
In shooting haue I stedfast hand, but surer hand had hee
That made this wound within my hart that heretoofore was free.
Of Physicke and of surgerye I found the artes for nede
the power of euery herb and plant dooth of my gyft procede.
now wo is me that nere an herb can heale the hurt of loue
and that the artes that others help their lord dooth helpelesse prove.
As Phebus would haue spoken more away Peneis stale
with fearfull steppes, and left hym in the mydst of al his tale.
And as she ran the meting wyndes her garmentes backeward blewe,
so that her naked skynne apperde behynd her as shee flewe.

Her goodly

Her goodly yellowe golden heare. that hanged loose and slacke,
with euery puffe of ayre dyd waue and tosse behinde her backe.
Her ronninge made her seeme more fayre. the yowthfull God therfore
Coulde not abyde too waste his wordes in dalyans any more.
But as his loue aduysed hym hee gan too mende his pace,
And with the better foote before the flyinge Nymph too chace.
And euen as when the greedy grewnde dooth course the siely hare,
amiddes the playne and champion fielde without all couert bare,
Bothe twaine of them doo straine them selues & laye on footemanshyp,
whoo may best ronne with all his force the toother too outstrippe;
The tone for sauftie of his lyfe, the toother for his praye,
The Grewnde aye prest with open mouth too beare the hare awaye,
Thrusts forth his snowt and gyrdeth out and at her loynes dooth snatch,
as thoughe hee wolde at euery stryde betwene his teeth her latche:
Ageine in dowt of beinge cawght the hare ay shrinkinge flyppes,
Apon the sodeine from his Jawes and from betwene his lyppes:
So farde Apollo and the mayde: hope made Apollo swyft,
and feare dyd make the mayden fleete deuysinge how too shyft.
Howebeit hee that dyd pursew of bothe the swyfter went,
as furthred by the fethred wynges that Cupid had him lent.
So that hee wolde not let her rest, but preased at her heele
So nere that throughe her scattred heare shee might his breathing feele.
But when shee sawe her breth was gone and strength began to fayle,
The colour faded in her chekes, and gynning for to quayle,
Shee looked too Peneus streame and saide nowe father dere,
and if you Streames haue powre of Gods then help your dawghter here.
O let the earth deuoure mee quicke, on whiche I seme too faire,
Or else this shape whiche is my harme by chaunging straite appaire.
This piteous praier skarsly sed: her synewes wared starke,
and therwithall about her brest dyd growe a tender barke.
Her heare was turned intoo leaues, her armes in bowghes dyd growe,
Her feete that were erewhile so swyft, now rooted were as slowe.
Her crowne became the toppe, and thus of that shee erst had bene,
remayned nothinge in the worlde, but beawtie freshe and grene.
Whiche when that Phebus dyd beholde (affection dyd so moue)
The tree to whiche his loue was turnde hee coulde no lesse but loue.
And as hee softly layde his hande vpon the tender plant,
Within the barke newouergrowen hee felt her hart yet pant.
And in his armes embracinge fast her bowghes and braunches lythe,
Hee profered kysses too the tree, the tree dyd from hym wrythe.
Well (quod Apollo) thowghe my fere and spowse thou can not bee,
Assuredly from this tyme forthe yet shalt thou be my tree.
Thou shalt adorne my golden lokes, and eke my plesant harpe,

Thou

Thou ſhalt adorne my quyuer full of ſhaftes and arrowes ſharpe.
Thou ſhalt adorne the valiant knyghtes and royall Emperours:
When for their noble feates of armes lyke mightie conquerours,
Tryumphantly with ſtately pompe vp too the Capitoll,
They ſhall aſcend with ſolemne traine that doo their dedes extoll.
Before Auguſtus palace doore full duly ſhalt thou warde,
The Oke amyd the palace yard ay faithfully too garde.
And as my head is neuer polde nor neuer more without
a ſemely buſhe of youthfull heare that ſpreadeth rounde about,
Euen ſo this honor geue I thee continually too haue
Thy branches clad from tyme too tyme with leaues bothe freſhe & braue.
Nowe when that Pean of this talke had fully made an end,
The Lawreil too his iuſt requeſt dyd ſeeme too condeſcend,
By bowing of her newe made bowghes and tender braunches downe,
and waggyng of her ſemely toppe, as if it were her crowne.
There is a launde in Theſſali encloſd on euery ſyde
with woddie hylles, that Tempe hyght, thrawgh myd whereof dooth
Penæus guſhinge full of froth from foote of Pindus hye. (glyde
Whiche with his headlonge falling downe dooth caſt vp violently,
A miſtie ſteame lyke flakes of ſmoke, beſprincling all about
The toppes of trees on eyther ſyde, and makes a roaryng out
That may be hearde a great way of. This is the fyred ſeate,
This is the howſe and dwellyng place and chamber of the greate
and mighty Ryuer: Here hee ſittes in Courte of peble ſtone,
and miniſters Juſtice too the waues and too the Nymphes eche one,
that in the brookes and waters dwell. Now hither dyd reſorte,
(not knowing if they might reioyce and vntoo myrth erhort
or comfort hym) his countrey brookes, Sperchius well beſeene,
with ſedgie head and shady bankes of poplars freſhe and greene.
Enipeus reſtleſſe ſwift and quicke, olde father Apidane,
Amphriſus with his gentle ſteame, and Aeas clad with cane:
With diuers other riuers mo, whiche hauing ronne their race,
Intoo the Sea their wearie waues doo leade with reſtleſſe pace.
From hens the carefull Inachus abſentes hym ſelfe alone. Inachus his daughter Io
Whoo in a corner of his caue with dolefull teares and mone,
Augmentes the waters of his ſteame, bewaylinge piteouſly
His dawghter Iō lately loſt. He knew not certainely
and if ſhe were aliue or dead But for bee had her ſowght,
And coulde not finde her any where, aſſuredly he thowght
She dyd not liue aboue the molde ne drewe the vitall breath:
Pilgeuing worſer in his minde, if ought bee worſe then death.
It fortunde on a certaine daye that Ioue eſpide this maide
Come ronnyng from her fathers ſteame alone: to whom hee ſayde:

O Damſell worthy Ioue hym ſelfe lyke one day for too make
ſome happie perſon whom thou liſt vntoo thy bed too take.
I pray thee let vs ſhrowd our ſelues in ſhadowe here together,
Of this or that (bee poynted boothe) it makes no matter whither,
Untyll the whoteſt of the day and noone bee ouerpaſt.
And if for feare of ſauage beaſtes perchaunce thou bee agaſt
to wander in the woodes alone, thou ſhalt not nede too feare,
A God ſhall bee thy guide too ſaue the harmeleſſe euerywhere.
And not a God of meaner ſorte, but euen the ſame that hath
the heauenly ſcepter in his hande, whoo in my dreadfull wrath,
Doo dart downe thunder wandringly: and therfore make no haſt
to ronne awaye. Shee ranne apace, and had already paſt
the Fen of Lerna and the fieldes of Lyncey ſet with trees:
When Ioue intendyng now in vayne no lenger tyme too leeſe,
Vppon the countrey all about dyd bringe a foggy myſt,
and caught the mayden whom poore foole hee vſed as hee lyſt.
Quene Juno looking downe that while vppon the open fielde,
when in ſo faire a day ſuche miſtes and darkeneſſe ſhee beheide,
Dyd maruell muche. for well ſhee knew thoſe miſtes aſcended not
from any ryuer, mooriſhe grounde, or other dankyſhe plot.
Shee lookt about her for her Ioue as one that was acquainted
with ſuche eſcapes and with the dede had often hym attainted.
Whom when ſhee founde not in the Heauen, onleſſe I geſſe amiſſe,
ſome wronge againſt mee (quoth ſhee) now my huſbande working is.
And with that word ſhee left the heauen, and downe too earth ſhee came,
commaunding all the miſtes away. But Ioue forſees the ſame,
and too a Cow as white as mylke his leman hee conueyes.
Shee was a goodly Heifar ſure: and Juno dyd her prayſe,
although God wot ſhee thought it not, and curiouſly ſhee ſowght,
where ſhee was bred: whoſe Cow ſhe was, who had her thither brought:
as though ſhee had not knowen the truthe. Her huſband by and by
(bycauſe ſhee ſholde not ſerche too nere) deuyſde a cleuly lye,
and tolde her that the Cow was bred euen now out of the growndе.
Then Juno whoo her huſbandes ſhift at fyngers endes had fownde,
Deſyred too haue the Cow of gyft. what ſhoulde hee doo as thoſe
Great cruelneſſe it were too yelde his louer too her foe.
And not too geue wolde brede miſtruſt. As faſt as ſhame prouoked,
ſo faſt againe a tother ſyde his Loue his mynde reuoked.
So muche that Loue was at the poynt too put all ſhame too flyght.
But that hee feared if he ſhould denye a gyft ſoo lyght,
as was a Cow to her that was his ſiſter and his wyfe,
Myght make her thinke it was no Cow, & brede perchaunce ſome ſtryfe.

Now

Now when that Juno had by gyft her husbandes Leman got,
Yet altogether out of feare and careleſſe was ſhee not.
Shee had hym in a Jealozie and thoughtfull was ſhee ſtyll,
fo2 doubt hee ſhoulde inuent ſome meanes to ſteale her from her, tyll
Too Argus olde Ariſtoꝛs ſonne ſhee put her fo2 too kepe.
This Argus had an hundꝛed eyes: of whiche by turns dyd ſlepe
alwaies a coꝛple, and the reſt dyd duely watche and warde,
and of the charge they tooke in hande had euer good regarde.
What way ſo euer Argus ſtood with face, with backe, oꝛ ſyde,
to Jō ward, befoꝛe his eyes dyd Jō ſtyll abyde.
All daye hee let her graze abꝛoade, the Sonne once vnder growne,
Hee ſhut her vp and by the necke with wyꝛthen with her bowne.
With croppes of trees and bytter weedes nowe was ſhee dayly fed.
and in the ſtead of coſtly coꝛche and good ſoft fetherbed,
ſhee ſatz a nyghtes vpon the growne, and on ſuche growne whereas
was not ſomtyme ſo muche as graſſe: and oftentimes ſhee was
compeld to dꝛynke of muddy pyttes: and when ſhee dyd deuyſe,
too Argus foꝛ too lift her handes in meke and humble wyſe,
Shee ſawe ſhee had no handes at all: and when ſhee dyd aſſaye
too make complaint, ſhee lowed out, whiche dyd her ſo affraye,
that ofte ſhee ſtarted at the noyſe and woulde haue ronne away.
Unto her father Jnachs bankes ſhee alſo dyd reſoꝛte,
where many a tyme and oft befoꝛe ſhee had ben wont too ſpoꝛt.
Nowe when ſhee looked in the ſtreame, and ſawe her hoꝛned head,
ſhee was agaſt and from her ſelfe woulde all in haſt haue fled.
The Nymphes her ſuſters knewe her not noꝛ yet her owne deare father,
yet followed ſhee both hym and them, and ſuffred them the rather,
too towche and ſtroke her where they lyſt, as one that pꝛeaſed ſtyll
tòo ſet her ſelfe too wonder at and gaze vppon theyꝛ fyll.
The good old Jnach pulze vp graſſe and too her ſtrait it beares.
Shee as ſhee kyſt and lyckt his handes dyd ſhed foꝛth dꝛerie teares.
And had ſhee had her ſpeche at wyll too vtter foꝛth her thought,
ſhee woulde haue told her name and chaunce and hym of helpe beſought.
But foꝛ becauſe ſhee coulde not ſpeake, ſhee pꝛinted in the ſande,
twoo letters with her foote, wherby was geuen too vnderſtande
the ſoꝛowefull changyng of her ſhape. whiche ſeene ſtrait cryed out
her father Jnach wo is mee, and claſpyng her about
Her white and ſemely heckars necke and chꝛiſtall hoꝛnes both twaine,
Ye ſhꝛicked out full piteouſly, nowe wo is mee agayne.
Alas art thou my daughter dere, whom thꝛough the woꝛld I ſought
And could not fynd, and nowe by chaunce art to my pꝛeſence bꝛought:
My ſoꝛrow certeſſe leſſer farre a thouſand fold had bene
If neuer had I ſene thee moꝛe, then thus to haue thee ſene

Thou ſtandſt as dombe and too my woꝛdes no anſwere can thou giue,
But from the bottom of thy heart full ſoꝛy ſyghes dooſt dꝛiue
As tokens of thyne inward grief, and dolefully dooſt mooe
Vntoo my talke, the only thyng left in thy power too doo.
But I miſtruſtyng nothing leſſe then thys ſo great miſchaunce,
By ſe'ne great mariage earneſtly dyd ſeke thee to aduaunce,
In hope ſome yſſue too haue ſeene betwene my ſonne and thee.
But now thou muſt a huſband haue among the herdes I ſee
And eke thyne yſſue muſt be ſuch as other cattels bee.
Oh that I were a moꝛtal wyght as other creatures are,
Foꝛ then myght death in length of tyme quite ryd mee of thys care.
But now bycauſe I am a God, and fate dooth death deny,
There is no helpe but that my grief muſt laſt eternally.
As Inach made thys piteous mone quick ſyghted Argus dꝛaws
His daughter into further fyeldes to whych he could not haue
Acceſſe, and hee hym ſelfe a looſ dyd get hym too a hyl,
From whence hee ſytting at hys eaſe viewd euery way at wyll.
Now coulde no lenger Ioue abyde hys louer ſo foꝛlo2ne,
And therupon hee cald hys ſonne that Maia had hym boꝛne,
Commaunding Argus ſhould be kild. He made no longe abod,
But tyde hys fethers too hys feete, and toke hys charmed rod.
(With which hee bꝛyngeth thinges a ſlepe, and fetcheth ſowles from hel)
And put hys hat vpon hys head: and when that all was well
He leaped from hys fathers towꝛes, and downe too earth hee flew
And there both hat and wynges alſo hee lightly from hym thꝛew.
Reteining nothyng but hys ſtaffe, the whych hee cloſely held
Betwene hys elbow and hys ſyde, and thꝛough the common field
Went ploddyng lyke ſome good plaine ſoule that had ſome flocke too feede
And as hee went hee piped ſtyll vpon an Oten reede.
Queene Junos herdman farre in loue with thys ſtraunge melodye
Beſpake hym thus: Good fellow myne, I pꝛay thee heartely
Come ſytte downe by mee on thys hyl. foꝛ better fede I knowe
Thou ſhalt not fynd in all theſe fyeldes, and (as the thing dooth ſhowe)
It is a coole and ſhadowy plot, foꝛ ſhepeherdes very fytte.
Downe by hys elbowe by and by dyd Atlas nephew ſytte.
And foꝛ too paſſe the tyme wythall foꝛ lemyng ouer long,
He helde hym talke of thys and that, and now and than among,
He playd vpon hys mery Pype too cauſe hys watching eyes
To fall a ſlepe. Poore Argus dyd the beſt he could deuyſe
To ouercome the pleaſant nappes: and though that ſome dyd ſlepe,
Yet of hys eyes the greater part hee made their watch too kepe.
And after other talke hee aſkt (foꝛ lately was it fownde)
Whoo was the fownder of that pype that dyd ſo ſwetely ſownde.

Then

Then sayd the God there dwelt sometime a Nymph of noble fame
Among the hylles of Orcadie, that Sirinx had too name.
Of all the Nymphes of Nonacris and fairie farre and nere,
In beawtye and in personage thys Lady had no pere.
Full often had shee geuen the flyppe both too the Satirs quycke
And other Goddes that dwell in woodes, and in the forestes thicke,
Or in the frutefull fieldes abrode. It was her whole desyre
To follow chaast Dianas guyse in maidenhed and attyre.
whom she did counterfeit so nigh, that such as dyd her see
Might at a blush haue taken her Diana for to bee,
But that the Nymph dyd in her hand a bowe of Cornell hold
whereas Diana euermore did beare a bowe of gold.
And yet she did deceyue folke so. Upon a certayne day
God Pan wyth garlond on hys head of Pinetree, sawe her stray
From Mount Lyceus all alone, and thus to her did say.
Unto a Gods request O Nymph vouchsafe thou too agree
That dooth desyre thy wedded spouse and husband for too bee.
There was yet more behynde too tell: as how that Syrinx fled,
Through wailesse woodes and gaue no eare too that ẏ Pan had sed,
Untyll shee too the gentyll streame of sandy Ladon came,
Where forbecause it was so depe shee coulde not passe the same,
Shee piteously too chaunge her shape the water Nymphes besowght:
And how when Pan betwene his armes too ketch ẏ Nymph had thought
In steade of her hee cawght the redes newe growen vpon the brooke,
And as he sighed, with his breath the reedes he softly shooke
whiche made a still and moorning noyse, with strangenesse of the whiche
and swetenesse of the feble sownde the God delighted miche,
Saide certesse Syrinx for thy sake it is my full intent,
Too make my comfort of these redes wherein thou doost lament,
And how that there of sundry reedes with wax together knyt
Hee made the pype whiche of her name the Grekes call Syrinx yet:
But as Cyllemus wolde haue tolde this tale, he cast his syght
on Argus, and beholde his eyes had byd hym all good nyght.
There was not one that dyd not slepe, and fast hee gan too nodde,
Immediately hee ceast his talke, and with his charmed rodde,
So stroked all his heauie eyes that earnestly they slept.
Then with his woodknife by and by hee lyghtly to hym stept,
And lent hym suche a perlous blows where as the sholders grewe,
Untoo the necke, that strait his head quite from the body flewe.
Then tomblinge downe the headlong hill his bloody coarse hee sent,
That all the way by whiche he rolde was stayned and besprent.
There liste thou Argus vnder foote, with all thy hundred lyghtes,
And all the lyght is cleane extinct that was within those syghtes.

One endlesse night thy hundred eyes hath now bereft for aye.
yet wold not Juno suffer so her herdmans eyes decay.
But in her painted Peacockes tayle and feathers did them set,
Where they remaine like precious stones and glaring eyes as yet.
Shee tooke his death in great despight and as her rage did moue
Determynd for too wreke her wrath vppon her husbandes loue.
Forthwith shee cast before her eyes vncoowth and vgly sightes
Compelling her too thinke shee sawe some fiendes or wicked sprightes.
And in her hart such secret prickes and percing stinges shee gaue her,
As though the world from place to place with restlesse sorrowe draue her.
Thou Nilus wert assignd too staye her paynes and trauelles past,
To which assoone as Jö came with much a doo at last,
Wyth weary knockles on thy brym shee kneled sadly downe,
And stretching foorth her fayre longe necke and christall horned crowne,
Such kind of countenance as shee had shee lifted too the skye,
And there with sighing sobbes and teares and lowing dolefully
Dyd seeme too make her moone too Joue desyring him too make
Some ende of those her troublous stormes endured for his sake.
Yee tooke his wyfe about the necke, and swetely kylling prayde
That Jös penance yet at length might by her graunt be stayde.
Thou shalt not nede too feare (quod hee) that euer shee shall greue thee I
From this day foorth. And in this case the better too beleue mee,
The Stygian waters of my woordes vnpartiall witnesse bene.
Assoone as Juno was appeasde, immediatly was sene
That Jö toke her native shape in which shee first was borne,
And eke became the selfesame thing the which shee was before.
For by and by shee cast away her rough and beary hyde,
In stead wherof a soft smooth skynne with tender fleshe dyd byde.
Her hornes sanke downe, her eyes & mouth were brought in lesser roome,
Her handes, her sholders, and her armes in place ageine dyd come.
Her clouen Clees to fyngers fyue ageín reduced were,
on whiche the nayles lyke polisht gemmes dyd shyne ful bright and clere.
In fyne no likenesse of a Cow but whitenesse dyd remaine
so pure and perfect as no snowe was able it to staynе.
Shee vaunst her selfe vpon her feete which then were brought too twoos.
and though shee gladly wolde haue spoke: yet durst shee not so doo,
without good hede, for feare shee sholde haue lowed lyke a Cow.
And therfore softly with her selfe shee gan to practise how
distinctly too pronounce her woordes that intermitted were.
Now as a Goddesse is shee had in honour euery where
amonge the folke that dwell by Nyls ryad in lynnen wede.
Of her in tyme came Epaphus begotten of the fede
of mighty Joue. This noble ympe now ioyntly wyth his moother,

throughe

throughe all the Cities of that lande haue temples tone with toother.
There was his match in hart and yeres the luftie Phaëton,
A ftalworth ftripynge ftrong and ftowt the golden Phebus fonne.
Whom making proude and ftately bauntes of his fo noble race,
and vntoo hym in that refpect in nothing geuing place,
the fonne of Jö coulde not beare: but fayde vntoo hym thus.
No maruell thoughe thou bee fo prowde and full of wordes ywis.
For euery fonde and trifling tale the whiche thy mother makes
thy gyddy wyt and hare brainde head forthwith for gofpell takes.
Well, vaunt thy felfe of Phebus ftyll, for when the truth is fene.
Thou fhalt perceiue that fathers name a forged thing too bene.
At this reproche dyd Phaeton war as red as any fyre:
Howbeit for the prefent tyme dyd fhame repreffe his ire.
Vntoo his mother Clymen ftrayt hee goeth too detect
The fpitefull wordes that Epaphus againft hym dyd obiect.
yea mother (quoth hee) and whiche ought your greater griefe too bee,
I whoo at other tymes of talke am wont too be foo free
and ftowt, had nere a worde to fay. I was afhamde too take
fo fowle a foyle: the more beaufe I coulde none anfwere make.
But if I bee of heauenly race extracted as ye fay,
than fhowe fome token of that hyghe and noble byrth I praye.
And vouche mee for too bee of heauen. with that hee gently caft
his armes about his mothers necke, and clafpyng her full faft,
befought her as fhee lovde his lyfe, and as fhee lovd the lyfe
of Merops and had kept her felfe his vndefyled wyfe,
and as fhee wyfhed welthely his fuckers too beftowe,
Shee wolde fome token geue wherby his rightfull fyre too knowe.
It is a doutfull matter whether Clymen moued more
with this her Phaetons earneft fute exactinge her fo fore,
or with the flaunder of the brute layde too her charge before,
Dyd holde vp bothe her handes too heauen, and lookynge on the fonne
my right dere childe I faufely fweare (quoth fhee too Phaeton)
That of this ftarre the which fo bryght dooth glyfter in thine eie:
Of this fame fonne that cheres the worlde with lyght indifferently
wert thou begot: and if I feyne, then with my hart I praye,
that neuer maye I fee hym more vntoo my dying daye.
But if thou haue fo great deſyre thy father for to knowe,
thou fhalt not nede in that behalfe muche labour too beftowe.
The place from whens hee dooth arife adioyneth to our lande.
And if thou thynke thy hart wyll farue, then go and vnderftande
the truthe of hym. when Phaeton hearde his mother fayinge fo,
Hee gan too leape and fkyp for ioy. her fed his fanfy tho,

vppon

Vppon the Heauen and heauenly thynges: and so with wyllyng mynde,
From Aethiop fyrst his natyue home, and afterwarde through Inde
Set vnderneathe the mornyng starre hee went so longe, tyll as
Hee folwnde mee where his fathers howse and daylyrysinge was.

Finis primi Libri.

Ouids Metamorphosis.

The princely palace of the Sonne stood gorgeous too beehold
on stately pyllars builded high of yellow burnisht gold,
beset with sparcling Carbũcles that like too fire did shine.
The roofe was framed curiously of ywrye pure and fyne.
The twoo doore leaues of siluer cleere a radiãt light did cast.
But yet the connyng workemanshippe of thinges therin farre past
the stuffe wherof the doores were made. For there a parfect plat,
had Vulcane drawen of all the worlde: Bothe of the sourges that
Embrace the yearth with winding waues, and of the stedfast growndy,
and of the heauen it selfe also that both encloseth rownde.
And first and formest in the Sea the Goddes therof did stand:
Lownde sowndyng Tryton with his shirle & writhen Trump in hande:
Unstable Protew chaungynge aye his figure and his hue,
From shape too shape a thowsande sythes as list him too renew:
Aegeon leaning boystrously on backes of myghty whales:
and Doris with her dawghters all: of whiche some cut the wales
with splaied armes, some sate on rockes and dride their goodly heare,
and some dyd ryde vppon the backes of fyshes here and theare.
Not one in all poyntes fully lyke an other coulde ye see,
nor very farre vnlyke, but suche as sisters ought too bee. (roddes.
The Earth had townes men, beastes, & woodes with sundry trees and
and ronning ryuers with their Nymphes & other countrey goddes.
Directly ouer all these same the plat of heauen was pyght,
Vpon the twoo doore leaues, the sygnes of al the Zodiak bright,
Indifferently syx on the leste and syx vpon the ryght.
When Clymens sone had clymbed vp at length with weary pace,
and set his foote within his dowted fathers dwellyng place,
Immediatly he preaced forth too put him selfe in syght,
and stood aloof. For neere at hande he coulde not byde the lyght.
In purple Robe and royall Throne of Emeraudes freshe and greene
dyd Phebus sytte, and on eche hande stoode wayting well beeseene,
Daies, monthes, yeres, ages, seasons, times, & eke the equall howres.
There stoode the syringtime with a crowne of fresh & fragrant flowres.
There waytes Somer naked starke all saue a wheaten hat:
and Autumne smerde with treadyng grapes late at the pressyng fat.
And lastly quaking for the colde, stood winter all forlorne,
with rugged head as white as doone, and garmentes all too torne,
Forladen with the Isycles that dangled vp and downe
Vppon his gray and hory beard and snowy frozen crowne.

The sonne thus sytting in the middes dyd cast his percing eye,
(with whiche full lightly when hee list hee all thinges dooth espye)
vppon his childe that stood aloof agast and trembling sore
at syght of suche vnwonted thinges, and thus beespake hym thore.
O noble pmp o Phaeton whiche arte not suche (I see)
of whom thy father sholde haue cause ashamed for too bee:
why hast thou traueld too my court: what is thy wyl with mee:)
Then answerd hee, of all the world O onely parfect light,
O father Phebus, (if I may vsurpe that name of ryght,
and that my moother for too saue her selfe from worldly shame,
hyde not her fault with false pretens and colour of thy name)
Some signe apparaunt graunt whereby I may bee knowen thy Sonne,
and let mee hang no more in dowt. Hee had no sooner doone
but that his Father puttyng of the bryght and fyry beames
that glystred rownd about his head lyke clere and golden streames,
commaunded him too draw him neere, and hym embracing saidee:
Too take mee for thy ryghtfull syre thou needst not bee afraide.
Thy moother Clymen of a truthe from falshod standeth free.
And for too put thee out of dowt aske what thou wylt of mee
and I wyll geue thee thy desyre, the lake whereby of olde
wee Goddes doo sweare, (the which mine eyes dyd neuer yet beehold)
beare wytnesse with thee of my graunt: hee scars this tale had told,
But that the foolyshe Phaeton strayt for a day dyd craue
the guyding of his wynged steedes, and chariot for too haue.
Then dyd his Father by and by forethinke him of his othe.
And shaking twenty tymes his head, as one that was full wroth,
beespake hym thus: thy woordes haue made mee raashely too consent
to that which shortely bothe of vs (I feare mee) shall repent.
Oh that I might retract my graunt, my sonne I doo protest
I wolde deny thee nothing els saue this thy fond request.
I may dissuade, there lyes herein more peryll then thou weene:
the thynges the whiche thou dooste desyre of great importaunce beene:
more then thy weakenesse well can wield, a charge as well apperes)
of greater weight, then may agree with these thy tender yeres.
Thy state is mortall weake and fraile, the thinge thou dooste desyre
is suche, whertoo no mortall man is able too aspyre.
Yea foolyshe boy thou dooste desyre (and all for want of wyt)
a greater charge then any God couldе euer haue as yet.
For were there any of them all so ouerseene and blynd
too take vppon hym this my charge, full quickely sholde hee fynde
that none but I could syt vppon the fyry Kreltree.
No not euen hee that rules this waft and endlesse space wee see

not hee

not bee that dartes with dreadfull hande the thunder from the skye,
shall dryue this chare. And yet what thynge in all the worlde perdie
is able too compare with Ioue? Now furst the morynng way
lies steepe vpright, so that the steedes in coolest of the day
and being freshe haue much a doo too clymbe againste the hyll.
Amiddes the heauen the gastly heighth augmenteth terror still.
My hart dooth wax as cold as yse full many a tyme and oft
for feare too see the sea and land from that same place aloft.
The euenyng way doth fal plump down requiring strength too guide)
That Tethis whoo dooth harborowgh mee within her sourges wyde)
dooth stand in feare least from the heauen I headlong down shold slide)
Beesydes all this the heauen ay swymmes and wheles about full swift
and with his rollyng bowes the starres their propre course too shyft.
Yet doo I keepe my natiue course ageinst this bount soo stowt,)
not geuinge place as others doo: but boldely bearynge out)
the force and swiftnesse of that heauen that whyrleth so abowt.)
Admyt thou had my wynged steedes and chariot in thyne hande:
what couldst thou doo? doost thynke thy selfe well able too withstande
the swiftnesse of the whirled poles? but that their brunt and sway
(yea doo the best and worst thou can) shall beare thee quite away?
Perchaunse thou doost imagin there some townes of Goddes to fynde,
with groues and Temples richte with gyftes as is among mankinde.
Thou art deceyued vtterly: thou shalt not fynde it so.
by blynde bywaies and vgly shapes of monstars must thou go.
And though thou knewe the way so well as that thou could not stray,
Betwene the dreadful bulls sharp hornes yet must thou make thy way.
Ageinst the cruell bowe the whiche the Aemonian archer drawes:)
Ageinst the rampinge Lyon armde with gredy teethe and pawes:)
Ageinst the Scorpion stretching farre his fel and venymd clawes:)
And eke the Crab that casteth forth his crooked clees awrye
not in suche sorte as toother dooth, and yet as dreadfully.
Ageine thou neyther hast the powre nor yet the skyll I knowe
my lustie coursers for to guyde that from their nosethrilles throwe
and from their mouthes the fyry breath that breadeth in their brest.
For skarsly wyll they suffer mee whoo knowes their nature best
when that their cruell courages begyn too catche a heate.
That hardly shold I deale with them, but that I knowe the feate.
But least my gyft sholde too thy griefe and vtter peryll tend
my Sonne beware and (while thou maist) thy fond request amend.
Bycause thou wold bee knowen too bee my chylde, thou semst too crane
a certaine signe: what surer signe I pray thee canst thou haue?
Than this my feare so fatherly the whiche I haue of thee?

whiche proueth mee moste certainely thy father for too bee?
Beeholde and marke my countenaunce? O wolde too god thy syght
coulde perce within my wofull brest, too see the heauy plyght,
and heapes of cares within my hart. Looke through the world so round
of all the wealth and goodes therein: if ought there may bee found
In heauen or earthe or in the Sea, aske what thou likest best,
and sure it shall not bee denyde. This onely one request
that thou hast made I hartely beeseche the too relent,
whiche for too terme the thinge a right is euen a ponyshement,
and not an honour as thou thynkst: my Phaeton thou doost craue
In stead of honour euen a squorge and ponishment for too haue.
Thou fondlyng thou, what doost thou meane w̃ fawnyng armes about
my necke thus flattryngly too hang? Thou needest not too dout.
I haue already sworne by Styx, aske what thou wylt of mee
and thou shalt haue. Yet let thy next wysh somwhat wyser bee.

Thus ended his aduertisment: and yet the wylfull Lad
withstood his coũsel vrging stil the promis that he had,
Desyryng for to haue the chare as if he had beene mad.

His father hauyng made delay as long as hee could shyft,
Dyd leade him where his Charyot stood whiche was of Vulcanes gyft.
The Axeltree was massy golde, the Bucke was massy golde,
The vtmost fellies of the wheeles, and where the tree was rolde.
The Spokes were all of syluer bryght, the Chrysolites and Gemmes
that stood vppon the Collars, Trace, and hownces in their hemmes
dyd cast a shere and glymeryng lyght, as Phebus shone theron.
Now whyle the lusty Phaeton stood gazyng herevppon,
and wondred at the workmanshyp of euery thyng: beehold
The early mornyng in the East began mee to vnfold
her purple gates, and shewd her howse bedect with Roses red.
The twyncklyng starres withdrew which by the mornyng star are led:
Whoo as the Captaine of that Host that hath no piere nor matche,
Dooth leaue his standyng last of all within that heauenly watche.
Now when his father sawe the worlde thus glistre red and trym,
And that his wanyng susters hornes began to waren dym,
He bade the fetherfooted howres go harnesse in his horse.
The Goddesses with myght and mayne themselues thertoo enforce.
His fyrysomynge steedes full fed with Juce of Ambrosye
They take from Maunger trymly dyght: and too their heades doo tye
strong reyned byts: and too the Charyot doo them well appoynt.
Then Phebus dyd with heauenly salue his Phaetons head annoynt,
that schorchyng fyre could nothyng hurt: whiche done, vppon his heare
He put the fresh and golden rayes hymselfe was wont to weare.

And then

And then as one whose hart misgaue the sorowes drawyng fast,
With sory syghes bee thus beespake his rechlesse sonne at last.
(And if thou canst) at least yet this thy fathers lore obey:
Sonne, spare the whip, & reyne them hard, they ron so swift away
As that thou shalt haue much a doo ther flying course too stay.
Directly through the Zones all fiue beeware thou doo not ryde.
A brode byway cut out a skew that bendeth on the syde,
Conteynd within the boundes of three the midmost Zones dooth lye:
Which from the gryslye Northren beare, & Southren Pole doth slye.
Kepe on thys way: my Charyot rakes thou playnly shalt espye
And to thentent that Heauen and Earth may well the heate endure,
Dryue neyther ouer high nor yet too lowe. For bee thou sure,
And if thou mount aboue thy boundes, the starres thou burnest cleane.
Ageyne beeneath thou burnst the Earth: most saufty is the meane.
And least perchaunce thou ouer muche the right hand way should take,
And so missortune should thee dryue vppon the wrythen snake,
Or else by taking ouermuch vpon the lefter hand,
Untoo the Aulter thou bee dryuen that dooth against it stand:
Indifferently beetwene them both I wysh thee for too ryde.
The rest I put too fortunes wyll, whoo bee thy frendly guide,
And better for thee then thy selfe as in this case prouyde.
Whyles that I prattle here with thee, beehold the dankish nyght
Beeyond all Aspayne her vtmost bound is passed out of syght.
Wee may no lenger tariens make: my wonted lyght is cald,
The morning with her countenaunce cleare the darknesse hath appald.
Take reyne in hand, or if thy mynd by counsell altred bee,
Refuse too meddle with my Wayne: and while thou yet art free,
And doost at ease within my house in saufegarde well remaine,
Of thys thine vnaduised wysh not helyng yet the payne,
Let me alone with geuing still the world his wonted lyght,
and thou therof as heretoofore enioy the harmlesse syght.
Thus much in vaine: for Phaeton both yong in yeres and wit,
Intoo the Chariot lighly leapt, and daunting him in it,
Was not a little proude that hee the brydle gotten had.
Hee thankt his father whom it griebd too see his child so mad.
Whyle Phebus and his rechlesse sonne were entertalking this,
Aeöus, Aethon, Phlegon, and the firy Pyröis
The restlesse horses of the Sonne beegan too ney so hye
With flaming breath, that all the heauen might beare them perfectly.
And with their hooues they mainly beete vpon the lattysd grate.
The which when Tethis (knowing nought of this her cousyns fate,)
Had put aside, and geuen the steedes the free and open skope

of all the compaſſe of the Skye within the heauenly Cope:
They girded forth, and cutting through the cloudes that let their race.
with ſplayed wynges they ouerflew the Eaſterne wynde apace.
The burden was ſo lyght as that the Genettes felt it not.
the wonted weight was from the wayne, the which they well did wot.
For lyke as ſhyppes amyddes the Seas that ſkant of ballace haue,
doo reele and totter with the wynde and peld too euery waue:
Euen ſo the wayne for want of weight it erſt was wont too beare,
dyd hoyſe aloft and ſkayle and reele, as thoughe it empty were.
Whithe when the cartware dyd perceiue, they left the beaten way
and takyng bridle in the teethe beegan too ronne aſtray.
The ryder was ſo ſore agaſt, hee knewe no vſe of Reyne,
nor yet his way: and thoughe hee had, yet had it bene in vayne,
bycauſe hee wanted power too rule the horſes and the wayne.

Then fyrſt did ſweat cold charles his waine through force of Phebus
and in the Sea forbydden hym too diue in vaine aſſaies. (raies
The ſerpent at the frozen pole both cold and ſlowe by kynde,
throughe heate wart wroth and fryd about a cooler place too fynde.
And thou Boötes thowgh thou bee but ſlowe of fotemanſhyppe,
Yet wert thou fayne (as Fame reportes) about thy wayne to ſkyppe.
Now when vnhappye Phaëton from toppe of all the Skie
beſheide the Earth that vnderneath a great way of dyd lye,
Hee wared pale for ſodaine feare, his ioyntes and ſynewes quooke,
the greatneſſe of the glyſtryng lyght his eyeſight from hym tooke.
Nowe wyſht hee that hee neuer had his fathers horſes ſee
Yt vrkt hym that hee thus had ſowght too learne his piedegrie
it grevd him that hee had preuayld in gaynyng his requeſt.
Too haue bene counted Herops Sonne hee thought it nowe the beſt.
Thus thinking was hee headlong dryuen as when a ſhyppe is borne,
by bluſtring wyndes her ſaileclothes rent, her ſterne in pieces torne,
and tacling bruſt, the whiche the Pilote truſting all too prayre
Abandons wholy too the ſea and fortune of the ayre.
What ſhold hee doo: muche of the Heauen hee paſſed had behynde
and more hee ſawe before: both whithe hee meaſured in his mynde,
Eft lookyng forwarde too the weſt whithe too approche as then
myght not betyde, and too the Eaſt eft looking backe agen.
Hee wyſt not what was beſt too doo, his wyttes were raviſht ſo.
For neither could hee holde the Reines, nor yet durſt let them go.
And of his horſes names was none that hee remembred tho.
Strange vncooth monſters dyd hee ſee diſperſed here and there
and dreadfull ſhapes of vgly beaſtes that in the Welkyn were.
There is a certaine place in whithe the hydious Scorpion throwes

His armes in compasse farre abrode much lyke a couple of bowes,
With wrythen tayle and clasping cles, whose poyson lymbes doo stretch
on euery syde, that of twoo signes they full the roome doo retch.
Whom when the Lad beeheld all moyst with blacke and lothely swet,
with sharpe and nedlepoynted stynge as though hee semde too thret,
Hee was so sore astrawght for feare, hee let the brydles flacke.
Which when the Horses felt lye loose vppon their sweating backe,
At rouers strayt through out the aire by wayes vnknowen they ranne
whereas they neuer came beefore sins the worlde beegan.
For looke what way theyr lawlesse rage by chaunce and fortune drewe,
without controlment or restraint that way they freely flew.
Among the starres that fyxed are within the firmament
They snatcht the Charyot hers and there. One while they coursing went
Vppon the toppe of all the sky: anon againe full rownd
They troll mee downe too lower wayes and nearer too thee ground.
So that the moone was in a maze too see her brothers wayne
Roonne vnder hers: the sindged cloudes beegan too smoke amayne.
Eche ground the higher that it was and nearer too the skye
The sooner was it set on fyre, and made therwith so drye,
That euery where it gan too chinke. The Medes and Pastures greene
Dyd seare away: and with the leaues, the trees were burned clene.
The parched corne dyd yeld wherwith too worke his owne decay.
Tush these are trifles. Mightie townes dyd perysh that same day.
Whole Countries with their folke were burnt: & forests ful of wood
were turnd too asshes with the rockes & moũtains where thei stood.
Then Athe, Cilician, Taure, & Tmole, and Oeta flamed hye,
and Ide erst full of flowyng Springes was then made vtter drye.
The learned virgins dayly hawnt, the sacred Helicon
and Thracian Hæmus (not as yet surnamde Oeagrion,)
did smoke both twayne: and Aetna whot of nature ay before,
encreast by force of Phaebus flame now raged ten tymes more.
The forkt Parnasus, Eryx, Cynth, and Othrys then dyd swelt)
and all the snow of Rhodopee dyd at that present melt.)
the lyke owtrage Mount Dyndimus, and Mime, & Mycale felt.)
Cytheron borne too sacred vse with Osse, and Pyndus hye
And Olymp greater then them bothe dyd burne excessyuely.
The passyng cold that Scythie had defended not the same
but that the barreyne Caucasus was partner of this flame.
And so were eke the airie Alpes and Appennyne besyde,
For all the Clowdes contynually their snowy toppes doo hide,
Then whersoeuer Phaeton dyd chaunce too cast his view,
The world was all on flamyng fyre. The breath the which he drew,

came smokyng

came ſmoking from his ſcalding mouth as from a ſeething pot
His Chariot alſo vnder hym beegan too war read whot.
Hee could no lenger dure the ſparkes and cynd3re flying out.
Again the culme and ſmould3ring ſmoke did w3ap him round about.
The pytchy darkneſſe of the which ſo wholly had him hent
as that he wyſt not where he was no3 yet which way he went.
The winged Ho3ſes fo3cibly dyd d3aw hym where they wolde.
The Aethyopians at that tyme (as men fo3 truth vpholde)
(The blood by fo3ſe of that ſame heate d3awen too the outer part
And there adult from that tyme fo3th) became ſo blacke and ſwart.
The moyſture was ſo d3yed vp in Lyby land that tyme.
That altoogether d3ye and ſco3cht contineweth yet that clyme.
The Nymphes w heeare about their eares bewayld their ſp3inges & lakes
Beötia fo3 her Dy3ces loſſe greate lamentation makes.
Fo3 Amimone Argos wept, and Co3inth fo3 the ſp3ing
Py3enee, at whoſe sacred ſtream the Muſes vſd too ſyng.
The Ryuers further from the place were not in better cace.
Fo3 Tanais in his deepeſt ſtreame dyd boyle and ſteme apace.
Old Penew and Caycus of the Country Teuth3anye,
and ſwift Iſmenos in their bankes by lyke myſſo3tune frye.
Then burnd the Pſophian Erymanth3 and (whych ſhold burne ageine)
The Troiane Xanthus and Lyco3mas with his yellow veine.
Meander playing in his bankes ay winding too and fro.
Mygdonian Melas with his waues as blacke as any ſlo.
Eurotas runnyng by the foote of Tenare boyled tho.
Then ſod Euph3ates cutting th3ough the myddes of Babilon
Then ſod O3ontes, and the Scythian ſwifte Thermodoon.
Then Ganges, Colchian Phaſis, and the noble Iſtre
Alpheus and Sperchyns bankes with flampng fire dyd gly ſtre.
The gold that Tagus ſtreame dyd beare dyd in the chanell melt.
Amyd Cayſter of this fy3e the ragyng heate was felte,
Among the quieres of ſinging ſwannes that with their pleaſant lay
Along the bankes of Lydian b3akes from place too place dyd ſtray.
And Nyle fo3 feare did ronne away intoo the furtheſt Clyme
Of all the wo3ld, and hyd his head which too this p3eſent tyme
Is yet vnfound: his mowthes all ſeuen cleane boyde of water beene.
Lyke ſeuen great valleys where (ſaue duſt) could nothing elſe be ſeene.
By lyke myſfo3tune Hebrus d3yde and Strymon both of Th3ace.
The Weſterne Ryuers Rhyne and Rhone and Po were in lyke caſe:
And Tyber vntoo whom the Goddes a faythfull p3omiſe gaue
Of all the wo3ld the Monarchy and ſoueraigne ſtate to baue.
The ground dyd crany euery where and light dyd pearce too hell

And

And made afrayd the King and Queene that in that Realme doo dwell.
The Sea dyd shrinke and wheras waues did late beefore remayne,
Beecame a champion field of dust and euen a sandy plaine.
The hilles erst hyd farre vnder waues lyke Ilelandes dyd appeare
So that the scattred Cyclades for the tyme augmented were.
The fyshes drewe them too the deepes: the Dolphynes durst not playe
aboue the water as before the Seales and Porkpis laye
with bellies vpwarde on the waues starke dead. and fame dooth go
that Nereus with his wyfe and dawghters all were faine as tho
too dyue within the scaldynge waues. Thryse Neptune dyd aduaunce
his armes aboue the scalding Sea with sturdy countenaunce:
And thrise for whotnesse of the ayre was faine him selfe too hyde.
But yet the Earth the nurce of thynges encloside on euery syde
(betweene the waters of the sea and sprynges that now had hydden
them selues within their moothers womb) for all the payne abydden,
vp too the necke put foorth her head and casting vp her hand,
betweene her forehead and the sonne as pantynge shee dyd stande,
with dreadfull quaking all that was shee fearfully dyd shake,
and shrynking somewhat lower downe with sacred voyce thus spake.

O kynge of Goddes and if this bee thy wyll and my desert,
Why doost thou slay with deadly dint thy thunder down too darte?
And if that needes I perishe must throughe force of fyrye flame,
Let thy celestiall fyre O God I pray thee doo the same.
A comfort shall it bee too haue thee author of my death, (breath)
I scars haue powre too speake these wordes. (the smoke had stopte her
Beeholde my syndged beard: beeholde my dym and bleared eye,
see howe about my scorched face the scaldyng embers flye.
Is this the guerdon wherewithall yee quite my trutefulnesse?
Is this the honour that yee geue mee for my plenteousenesse
and dutie doone with true intent? for suffryng of the plowghe
too draw depe woundes vpon my back & rakes too rende mee throughe?
For that I ouer all the yere continually am wrought?
For geuing foder too the beastes and cattell all for nowght?
For yelding corne and other foode wherewith too kepe mankynde,
and that too honour you with all sweete frankinsens I fynde?
But put the case that my desert destruction duely craue,
what hath thy brother: what the Seas deserued for too haue?
why doo the Seas bys Lotted parte thus ebbe and fall so lowe,
wythdrawyng from thy skye too which it owght most nere too growe?
But if thou neyther doost regard thy brother, neyther mee,
At least haue mercy on thy heauen, looke round about and see
how both the Pooles begin too smoke which if the fyre appall

to vtter ruine (be thou sure) thy pallace nedes must fall.
Beholde how Atlas gynnes to faynt. his sholders though full strong,
vnneth are able to vphold the sparclyng Ertree longe.
If sea and land dooe go to wrecke and heauen itself dooe burns
to olde confused Chaos then of force wee must returne.
But too thy helping hand therfore too saue the lytle left
yf ought remayne beefore that all bee quite and cleane bereft.
When ended was this pyteous playnt the Earth dyd hold her peace
She could no lenger dure the heate but was compeld to ceace.
Intoo her boosome by and by shee shrunke her syndged head
more nearer too the stygnan caues, and ghostes of persones dead.
The Syre of Heauen protesting all the Goddes and hym also
that lent the Charyot to his chyld, that all of force must go
too hauocke if he helped not, went too the byghest part
and toppe of all the heauen from whens his custome was too dart,
his thunder and his lightnyng downe. But neyther dyd remayne
a clowde wherwith too shade the Earth, nor yet a shower of rayne.
Then with a dreadfull thunderclappe vp too his eare he bent
his fyst, and at the wagoner a flashe of lyghtnyng sent,
which strake his bodye from the lyfe and threw it ouer wheele
and so with fyre he quenched fyre. The steedes dyd also reele
Vppon their knees, and starting vp sprang violently, one heere
and there another, that they brast in pieces all theyr geere.
They threw the Collars from their neckes, and breaking quite a sunder
the Trace and Harnesse flange away: heere lay the brydes: yonder
The Ertres plucked from the naues: and in another place
The sheuered spokes of broken wheeles: and so at euery pace
The pieces of the Charyot tozne lay strowed heere and there
But Phaeton (fyre yet blasing still among his yellow heare)
Shot headlong downe, and glyd along the region of the aire
lyke too starre in winter nights (the weather clere and faire)
Which though it dooe not fall in deede, yet falleth too our sight.
Whom almost in another world and from his country quite
The ryuer Padus dyd receyue, and quencht his burnyng head.
The water Nymphes of Italy dyd take his carcasse dead
And buried it yet smoking still, with Ioues threforked flame.
And wrate this Epitaph in the stone that lay vppon the same.
Heere lyes the lusty Phaeton which tooke in hand too guyde
His fathers Charyot, from the which although he chaunst to slyde:
Yet that he gaue a proude attempt it cannot be denyde.
With ruthefull cheere and heauy hart his father made great mone
And woold not shewe himself abrode, but mourned at home alone.

And

And yf it bee too bee beelieued, as bruted is by fame,
A day dyd passe without the sunne. The brightnesse of the flame
Gaue light: and so vntoo some kynd of vse that mischief came.
But Clymen hauyng spoke, as much as moothers vsually,
are wonted in such wretched cace, discomfortablely
And half beesyde her self for wo, with torne and scratched brest,
Hercht through the vniuersall world, from East to furthest West,
Fyrst sekyng for her sonnes dead coarse, and after for his bones.
Shee fownd them by a forreine streame, entumbled vnder stones.
There fell shee grouelyng on his graue, and readyng there his name,
Shed teares theron, and layd her brest all bare vppon the same.
The daughters also of the sonne no lesse then dyd their moother,
beewayld in vaine with floodes of teares, the fortune of their brother:
And beating piteously their brests, incessantly dyd call
the buryed Phaeton day and nyght, who heard them not at all,
About whose tumbe they prostrate lay. Fowr times the moone had fylld
The Circle of her ioyned hornes, and yet the sisters hyld
their custome of lamentyng still: (for now continuall vse
had made it custome). Of the which the eldest Phaetuse
about too kneele vppon the ground, complaynd her feete were nome.
Too whom as fayre Lampetie was rysing for too come,
her feete were held with sodaine rootes. The thyrd about too teare
her ruffled lokes, fylde bothe her handes with leaues in stead of heare.
One wept too see her legges made wood: another dyd reppyne
too see her armes beecome long boughes. And shortly too defyne,
Whyle thus they wondered at themselues, a tender barke began
too growe about their thyghes and loynes, which shortly ouerran
their bellyes, brestes, and sholders eke, and handes successiuely,
That nothing (saue their mouthes) remayned ay callyng piteously
vppon the wofull moothers help. What could the moother doo?
But ronne nowe heere now there, as force of nature drew her too?
And deale her kysses whyle she might: she was not so content:
But tare their tender braunches downe: and from the slyuers went
red droppes of blood as from a wound. The daughter that was rent
Cride spare vs moother spare I pray, for in the shape of tree
the bodies and the flesh of vs your daughters wounded bee.
And now farewell. That word ones sayd, the barke grew ouer all.
Now from theise trees flow gummy teares that Amber men dooe cal.
Which hardened with the heate of sonne as from the boughs they fal,
The tryeling Ryuer dooth receyue, and sendes as thynges of price,
to decke the deynty Dames of Rome and make them fyne and nyce.

Now present at this monstruous hap was Cygnus Steuels sonne
whoo being by the moothers syde a kynne to Phaetonne
Was in condicion more a kynne. Hee leauing vp his charge.
(for in the lande of Lygury his kingdome stretched large)
went moornyng all alone the bankes and pleasant streame of Pō
amonge the trees encreased by the systers late ago.
Anon his voyce became more small and shryll then for a man.
Gray feathers muffled in his face: his necke in length began
farre from his sholders for too stretche: and furthermore there goes
a fyne red stringe a crosse the ioyntes in knytting of his toyes:
with feathers closed are his sydes: and on his mouth there grew
a brode blunt byll: and fynally was Cygnus made a newe
and vncooth fowle that hight a Swan, whoo neyther too the wynde,
the ayre, nor Ioue beetakes hym selfe, as one that bare in mynde
the wrongfull fyre sent late against his cousin Phaeton.
In lakes and ryuers is his ioy: the fyre hee ay dooth shonne.
and chooseth hym the contrary contynually too wonne.

Forlorne and altogether voyde of that same body shene
was Phaetons father in that while which erst had in hym bene,
Lyke as hee looketh in Theclyps. Hee hates the yrksome lyght,
Hee hates hym selfe, hee hates the day, and settes his whole delyght
in makyng sorrowe for his sonne, and in his griefe dooth storme
and chaufe denying too the worlde his duetie too performe.
My lot (quoth hee) hath had inoughe of this vnquiet state
from first beegynnynge of the worlde. It yrkes mee (thoughe too late)
of restlesse toyles and thankelesse paynes. Let whoo so wyll for mee
go dryue the charyote in the whiche the lyght sholde caryed bee.
If none dare take the charge in hande, and all the Goddes persyst
as insufficient, hee hym selfe go dryue it if hee lyst.
That at the least by venturinge our brydles for too guyde
His lyghtnyng making childlesse syres hee once may lay a syde.
by that tyme that hee hath assayde the vnappalled force
that dooth remayne and rest within my fyryfooted horse,
I trowe hee shall by tryed proof bee able for too tell
Howe that hee dyd not merit death that coulde not rule them well.
The Goddes stood all about the Sonne thus stormyng in his rage
beeseeching hym in humble wyse his sorrow too asswage.
And that hee wold not on the world continual darknesse bring,
Ioue eke excusd him of the fyre the whiche hee chaunst to flyng.
And with entretans myngled threates as dyd beecome a kyng.
Then Phebus gathered vp his steedes that yet for feare dyd ronne
lyke flaighted fiendes, and in his moode without respect begonne

too beate

too beate his whipstocke on their pates and lash them on the sydes.
It was no nede too byd hym chauf. for euer as hee rydes
hee styl vpbraides them with his sonne, and lays them on the hides.
And Joue almighty went about the walles of heauen too trye,
if ought were perisht with the fyre which when hee byd espye
Continewing in their former state, all strong and sauf and sownd,
Hee went too view the workes of men, and thinges vpon the ground.
Yet for his land of Arcadie hee tooke most care and charge.
The Springes & streames that durst not ronne hee set ageins at large.
Hee clad the earth with grasse, the trees with leaues both fresh & grene
commaunding woodes too spring ageine that erst had burned beene.
Now as hee often went and came yt was his chaunce too lyght
Vppon a Nimphe of Nonacris whose forme and beawtye bright
Byd set his hart on flaming fyre. Shee vsed not too spynne
Nor yet too curle her frysled heare with bodkyn or wyth pynne.
A garment with a buckled belt fast gyrded byd shee weare
And in a white and slender Call slyght trussed was her heare.
Sometyme a dart sometyme a bowe shee vsed for too beare.
Shee was a knyght of Phebes troope. There came not at the mount
of Menalus of whom Diana made so great accompt.
But fauor neuer lasteth long. The Sonne had gone that day
A good way past the poynt of noone: when werye of her way
Shee drewe too shadowe in a wood that neuer had beene cut.
Here of her sholder by and by her quyuer byd shee put.
And hoong her bowe vnbent aside, and couchd her on the ground
Her quyuer vnderneath her head. whom when that Joue had fownd
Alone and weary sure (he sayd) my wyfe shall neuer knowe
of this escape, and if shee doo, I know the worst I trowe.
Shee can but chyde, shal feare of chyding make mee too forslow?
Hee counterfetteth Phebe krayt in countnance and aray.
and says O virgine of my troope, where dydst thou hunt too day?
The damsell started from the grounde and said hayle Goddesse deere,
of greater worth then Joue (I thinke) though Joue him selfe did heere.
Joue heard her well and smylde therat, it made his harte reioyce
too heare the Nymphe preferre him thus before him selfe in choyce.
Hee fell too kyssing: whiche was suche as out of square myght seeme,
and in suche sorte as that a mayde coulde nothyng lesse beeseeme.
And as shee wolde haue told what woodes shee ranged had for game,
hee tooke her fast betwene his armes, and not without his shame
bewrayed playnly what hee was and wherfore that hee came.
The wench ageinst hym stroue as muche as any woman coulde
(I wolde thou Juno had it seene. for then I knowe thou wolde

not take

not take the deede ſo heynouſly: with al her might ſhee ſtroue.
But what poore wenche or whoo aliue could vanquiſhe mighty Ioues
Ioue hauinge ſped flew ſtraight too heauen. Shee hateth in her hart
the giltieſſe fieldes & wood where Ioue had playd that naughty part.
Away ſhee goes in ſuche a griefe as that ſhee had weinye,
forgot her quiuer with her ſhaftes and bowe that hanged by.
Dyctinna garded with her trayne and prowde of kyllynge deere,
in raungyng ouer Menalus eſpying cald her neere.
The Damſell hearyng Phebe call dyd ronne away amaine,
Shee feared leaſt in Phebes ſhape that Ione had come agayne.
But when ſhee ſawe the troope of Nymphes that garded her about,
ſhee thought there was no more deceit, and came among the rowt.
Oh lorde howe hard a matter yſt for gylty hartes too ſhyft?
and kepe their countnance? frō the grownd her eies ſcars durſt ſhee liſt.
Shee prankes not by her myſtreſſe ſyde, ſhee preales not too bee
the formeſt of the company as when ſhee erſt was free.
Shee ſtandeth muet: and by chaunging of her colour ay)
the treadyng of her ſhooe awry ſhee playnely dooth bewray.)
Diana might haue founde the fault but that ſhee was a may.)
A thouſande tokens dyd appere apparant too the eye,
by whiche the Nymphes them ſelues (they ſay) her fault dyd wel eſpye.
Nyne tymes the Moone full too the worlde had ſhewed her horned face
when fayntynge through her brothers flames & hunting in the chace,
Shee fownd a coole and ſhady lawnde through midſt wherof ſhee ſpide
a ſhallowe brooke with tricling ſtreame on grauell bottom glyde.
And lykinge well the pleaſant place, vppon the vpper brym
Shee dypt her foote, and fynding there the water coole and trym,
away (ſhee ſayd) with ſtanders by: and let vs bath vs here.
Then Parrhaſis caſt downe her head with ſad and baſhfull chere.
The reſt dyd ſtryppe them to their ſkynnes. ſhee onely ſowght delay,
Vntyll that wold or wold ſhee not her clothes were plukt away.
Then with her naked body ſtrayt her cryme was browght too lyght.
whiche yll aſhamd as with her handes ſhee wold haue hyd from ſighte,
Why beaſt (quoth Cynthia) get thee hens, thou ſhalt not here defyle
this ſacred Spryng. and from her trayne ſhee dyd her quite cryle.
The Patrone of the thondering Ioue had inclyng of the fact,
delaying tyll conuenient tyme the poniſhement too eract.
There is no cauſe of further ſtay. Too ſpyght her hart withall,
Her huſbandes leman bare a boy that Arcas men dyd call.
On whom ſhee caſtinge lowring looke with fell and cruell mynde
ſayde: was there arrant ſtrompet thou none other ſhyft too fynde?
But that thou needes muſt bee with barne? that all the world muſt ſee

my

By husbandes open shame and thine in dooinge wrong too mee:
But neyther vntoo heauen nor hell this trespasse shalt thou beare.
I wyll bereeue thee of thy shape throughe pryde wherof thou wers
so hardy too entyce my feere. Immediatly with that
shee rawght her by the foretoppe fast and fiercely threwe her flat
ageinst the groande. The wrecched wench her armes vp mekely cast,
Her armes beegan with gryslly heare too ware all rugged fast.
Her handes gan warpe and intoo pawes vnfaueurely to growe.
and for to serue in stede of feete. The lyppes that late ago
dyd lyke the myghty Joue so well, with syde and flaring flappes
beecame a wyde deformed mouth. and further least perhappes
her prayers and her humble woordes myght cause her too relent:
shee dyd bereeue her of her speche. In stede wherof there went
an yrefull horce and dreadfull voyce out from a threatnyng throate:
But yet the selfe same mynde that was before shee turnd her coate,
was in her styll in shape of Beare. the griefe wherof shee showes
by thrusting foorth continuall sighes. and vp shee gastly throwes
suche kynde of handes as then remaynde vntoo the starry Skye.
And for because shee coulde not speake shee thought Joue inwardly
to bee vnthankfull. Oh how oft shee daryng not abyde,
alone among the desert woodes, full many a tyme and tyde,
wold stalke beefore her howse in grounds that were her own erewhiles
How oft oh dyd shee in the hylles the barkyng howndes begyle:
and in the lawndes where shee her selfe had chaced erst her game,
nowe fly her selfe to saue her lyfe when hunters sowght the same:
Full oft at syght of other beastes shee hyd her head for feare,
forgetting what shee was her selfe. for thowgh shee were a Beare,
yet when shee spyed other Beares shee quooke for very payne:
and feared wulues although her syze amonge them dyd remayne.
Beholde Lycaons dawghters sonne that Archas had too name
about the age of fyftene yeres within the forest came
Of Erymanth, not knowing awght of this his moothers cace.
There after pytching of his toyles, as bee the stagges dyd chace,
vppon his moother sodeinly it was his chaunce too lyght,
whoo for desyre too see her sonne dyd stay her selfe from flyght.
and wystly on hym cast her looke as one that dyd hym knowe.
But hee not knowinge what shee was beegan his heeles too showe.
and when hee sawe her still persist in staring on his face,
hee was afraide, and from her syght withdrewe him selfe a pace.
But when hee coulde not so bee ryd, hee tooke an armed pyke,
In full intent her throughe the harte with deadly wounde too stryke.
But God almighty held his hande, and lyftynge bothe away

dyd

dyd disappoynt the wicked act. For strayt hee dyd conuey
them throughe the ayre with whirling windes too toppe of all the skye,
and there dyd make them neighbour starres about the Pole on hye.
When Juno shining in the heauen her husbandes minion founde,
Shee swelde for spyght: and downe shee comes too watry Tethys
And vntoo olde Oceanus, whom euen the Goddes aloft (rownd
dyd reuerens for their iust desertes full many a tyme and oft.
Too whom demaunding her the cause: And aske ye (quoth shee) why
that I whiche am the Queene of Goddes come hyther from the Sky?
Good cause there is I warrant you. An other holdes my roome.
For neuer trust mee whyles I lyue, yf when the nyght is come,
and ouercasteth all the worlde with shady darknesse whole,
yee see not in the heighth of heauen hard by the nordren Pole
Wheras the vtmost circle ronnes about the Axeltree
In shortest circuit, gloriously enstalled for too bee
In shape of starres the styngyng woundes that make mee yll appayd.
Now is there (trowe yee) any cause why folke shold bee afrayd
Too doo too Juno what they lyst: or dread her wrathfull moode?
Which onely by my working harme doo turne my foes too good?
O what a myghty act is doone? how passing is my power?
I haue beereft her womans shape, and at this present hower
Shee is beecome a Goddesse. Lo this is the squorge so sower
wherewith I stryke myne enemyes. Lo here is all the spyght
that I can doo: this is the ende of all my wondrous myght.
No force. I wolde hee sholde (for mee) her natyue shape restore,
and take away her brutishe shape, Lyke as hee hath before
doone by his tother paramour that fyne and proper piece
of Argos whom hee made a Cow, I meane Phoronews Niece.
Why makes hee not a full deuorce from mee? and in my steade
strait take his swetehart too his wyfe? and col her in my bed?
Hee cannot doo a better deede (I thinke) then for too take
Lycaon to his fatherinlawe. But if that you doo make
accompt of mee your foster chylde, then graunt that for my sake.
the Oxen and the wycked waine of starres in nombre seuen,
for whoredoome sake but late ago receiued intoo heauen,
maye neuer dyue within your waues. Ne let that strompet vyle
by bathinge of her fylthy lymbes your waters pure defyle.
The Gods did graunt her her request: & strait to heauen shee flew,
in hādsome chariot through the ayre, which painted peacocks drew
as well heeset with blasyng eyes late taue from Argus head,)
as thou thou prating Rauen white by nature being bred,
hadst on thy fethers iustly late a coly colour spred.

For this same byrde in auncient tyme had feathers faire and white
as euer was the driuen snowe or syluer cleere and bryghte.
Yee might haue well compared hym selfe in beawtie with the dooues
That haue no blemyshe, or the Swan that roonnyng water looues:
Or with the Geese that afterward shold with their gagling out
Preserue the Romaine Capitoll beeset with foes about.
His toong was cause of all his harme, his tatling toong dyd make
his colour whiche beefore was white, beecome so fowle and blake.
Coronis of Larysa was the fayrest mayde of face,
In all the lande of Thessaly. Shee stood in Phebus grace
as longe as that shee kept her chaste, or at the least as long
As that shee skaped vnespyde in dooyng Phebus wrong.
But at the last Apollos byrde her priuy packing spide.
whom no entreatans could perswade, but that hee swyftly hyde
hym too his maister, too beewray the dooynges of his loue.
Now as hee flew, the pratling Crowe her wynges apace dyd moue:
And ouertakyng fell in talke and was inquisitiue
For what intent and too what place hee dyd so swyftly dryue.
And when shee heard the cause therof, shee sayd: now trust mee sure,
This message on the which thou goste no goodnesse wyll procure.
And therfore harken what I say: disdaine thou not at all,
Too take some warnyng by thy friende in thynges that may beefall.
Consyder what I erst haue bene and what thou seest mee now:
And what hath bene the growndd hereof. I boldly dare auow,
That thou shalt fynde my faythfulnesse imputed for a cryme.
For Pallas in a wycker chest had hyd vppon a tyme
a chyld cald Erichonius, whom neuer woman bare,
and tooke it vntoo maydens three that Cecrops dawghters were.
Not tellyng them what was within, but gaue them charge too keepe
The Casket shut, and for no cause within the same too peepe.
I standinge close amonge the leaues vppon an Elme on hye,)
dyd marke their dooinges and their wordes, e there I did espye)
How Pandrosos and Hersee kept their promis faythfully.)
Aglauros calles them cowardes bothe, and makes no more adooe,
But takes the Casket in her hande and dooth the knottes vndooe.
And there they sawe a Chyld whose partes beeneath were lyke a snake.
Strait too the Goddesse of this deede a iust report I make.
For whiche shee gaue mee this rewarde that neuer might I more,
Accompt her for my Ladye and my mystresse as beefore.
And in my roome shee put the fowle that flyes not but by night.
A warnyng vntoo other byrdes my lucke shold bee of ryght
Too holde their toonges for beeing shent. But you wyl say perchance,

I came vnsentfor of my selfe, thee dyd mee not aduaunce.
I dare well say thowgh Pallas now my beauy mystresse stand.
Yet if perhappes ye shold demaunde the question at her hand,
as sore displeased as thee is, thee wold not this denye:
But that thee chose mee fyrst her selfe too beare her companye.
For (well I knowe) my father was a Prynce of noble fame,
Of Phocis kyng by longe discent, Coronew was his name:
I was his darlyng and his ioy, and many a welthy piere
(I wold not haue you thinke disdayne) dyd seeke mee for their feere.
My forme and beawty dyd mee hurte. For as I leysurely
Went iettyng vppe and downe the shore vppon the grauell dry,
(as yet I customably dooe) the God that rules the Seas
espyinge mee fell strait in loue. And when hee sawe none ease
in sute, but losse of wordes and tyme, hee offred violens,
And after mee hee roonnes apace. I skudde as fast fro thens,
From sand too shore from shore too sand, still playing for too hole,
Untyll I was so tyrde that hee had almost got the gole.
Then cald I out on God and man. But (as it dyd appere)
There was no man so nere at hande that coulde my crying here.
A virgin Goddesse pitied mee bycause I was a mayde:
And at the vtter plundge and pinche dyd sende mee present ayde.
I cast mine armes too beaue, mine armes wart light w feathers black)
I went about too cast in hast my garmentes from my backe,
and all was feathers. In my skynne the rooted feathers stacke.
I was about with violent hande too stryke my naked brest,
But neyther had I hand nor brest that naked more dyd rest.
I ran. but of my feete as erst remayned not the print.
Mee thowght I glyded on the growne. Anon with sodaine dynt,
I rose and houered in the ayre. And from that instant tyme
Dyd wayt on Pallas faythfully without offence or tryme.
But what avayles all this too mee, and if that in my place
The wicked wretche Myctymnee (whoo late for lacke of grace
was turned too an odious byrde) too honor called bee?
I pray thee dydst thou neuer heare how false Myctymenes
(a thing all ouer Lesbos knowne) defilde her fathers cowche?
The beast is now became a byrde. whose lewdnesse dooth so towche
and pryeke her gylty conscience, that shee dares not come in syght,
Nor shewe her selfe abrode abaies. but fleteth in the nyght
For shame leaste folke shold see her faulte. and euery other byrde
Dooth in the ayre and pure toddes with wondryng at her gyrde.
A myschiefe take thy tatling toong the Rauen answerd tho.
Thy vaine forspeaking moues mee not. And so hee forth dyd go

and telles

and telles his lorde Apollo how hee sawe Coronis lye
with Ischys a gentleman that dwelt in Thessalye.
When Phebus heard his louers fault, hee fiersly gan too frowne,
and cast his garlond from his head, and threw his viall downe.
His colour chaunged, his face lookte pale, and as the rage of Ire
that boyled in his belkyng brest had set his hart on fyre,
Hee caught mee vp his wonted tooles, and bent his golden bowe,
And by and by with deadly stryppe of vnauoyded blowe
Strake throwgh the brest the whiche his owne had toucht so oft afore.
Shee wounded gaue a pitious shryke and (drawyng from the sore
The deadly dart the whiche the blood pursewing after fast
vppon her whyte and tender lymbes a skarlet colour cast)
saide Phebus well, thou might haue wreakt this trespasse on my head)
and yet forborne mes tyll the tyme I had bene browght a bed.)
Nowe in one body by thy meanes a cowple shalbe dead.)
Thus muche shee saide: and with the blood her lyfe dyd fade alway.)
The body beeinge voyde of sowle became as colde as clay.
Then al too late, alas too late gan Phebus too repent
That of his louer hee had tane so cruell ponnishement.
He blames hym selfe for geeuing eare so vnaduysedly.
Hee blames hym selfe in that hee tooke it so outragiously.
Hee hates and bannes his faithfull byrde bycause hee dyd enforme
Hym of his louers naughtinesse that made hym so too storme.
Hee hates his bowe, hee hates his shafte that rashely from it went:
And eke hee hates his hasty handes by whom the bowe was bent.
Hee takes her vp betwene his armes endeuorying all too late
by playster made of precious herbes too stay her helpelesse fate.
But when hee saw there was no shift: but that shee needes must burne,
and that the solemne sacred fyre was prest too serue the turne,
Then from the bottom of his harte full sorry syghes he fet,
(For heauenly powers with watry teares their cheekes may neuer wet)
In case as when a Cow beeholdes the cruell bootcher stand
with Launcing are embrewd with blood and lyfting vp his hand
aloft too snetch her sucking Calfe that hangeth by the heeles,
And of the ar the deadly dynt vppon his forehead feeles.
Howbeit after sweete perfumes beestowde vppon her corse
and murthe embracing, hauing sore bewayde her wrong dinors,
Hee followed too the place assignd her body for too burne.
There couldе hee not abyde too se his seede too ashes turne.
But tooke the baby from her wombe and from the fyry flame,
And vntoo dowble Chyrons denne conueied strait the same.
The Rauen hopyng for his truthe too bee rewarded well,

Yee maketh blacke, forbiddyng hym with whyter byrdes to dwell.
The Centaure Chyron in the whyle was glad of Phebus boy,
And as the burthen browght some care the honour brought hym
Vppon a tyme with golden lokes about her sholders spred, (loy.
A dawghter of the Centaures (whom a certayne Nymphe had bred
about the brooke Caycus banckes) that hyght Ocyroee
came thyther. This same fayre yoong Nymphe could not contented bee
Too learne the craft of Surgery as perfect as her syre,
But that too learne the secrete doomes of Fate shee must aspyre.
And therfore when the furious rage of frenzie had her cowght,
And that the spryght of prophesye enflamed had her thowght,
Shee lookt vppon the chyld and said: sweete babe the Gods thee make
a man. for all the worlde shalt fare the better for thy sake.
All sores and sickenesse shalt thou cure: thy powre shal eke bee sythe,
Too make the dead alyue agein. For dooynge of the whiche
ageinst the pleasure of the Goddes, thy Graundsyre shall thee stryke
Soo with his fyre, that neuer more thou shalt persourme the lyke.
And of a God a bludlesse coarce, and of a Coarce (full straunge)
Thou shalt becomme a God ageine, and twyce thy nature chaunge.
And thou my father liefe and deere, whoo now by destenie,
art borne too lyue for euermore and neuer for too dye,
Shalt suffer suche outragious payne throughout thy members all,
By wounding of a venymd dart that on thy foote shal fall,
That oft thou shalt desyre too dye, and in the latter ende
The fatall dames shall breake thy threede and thy desyre thee sende.
There was yet more beehynde too tell, when sodeinely shee fet
a sore depe sigh, and downe her cheekes the teares dyd tryckle wet.
Myne owne misfortune (quoth shee) now hath ouertake mee sure.
I cannot vtter any more, for wordes wax out of vre.
My connyng was not worthe so muche as that it sholde procure
The wrath of God. I feele by proof farre better had it beene:
If that the chaunce of things too come I neuer had forseene.
For nowe my natyue shape withdrawes. mee thinkes I haue delight
Too feede on grasse and flyng in fieldes: I feele my selfe so lyght.
I am transformed too a mare lyke other of my kynne.
But wherfore sholde this brutishe shape all ouer wholly wynne
Consyderyng that although bothe horse and man my father bee:
Yet is his better parte a man as playnely is too see.
The latter ende of this complaynt was fumbled in suche wyse,
as what shee meant the standers by could scarsly well deuyse.
Anon shee neyther semde too speake nor fully for too ney,
But like too one that counterfetes in sport the mare too play.

Within a while shee neyed playne, and downe her armes were pight,
Vppon the grownde all clad with heare, and bare her body tyght.
Her fyngers ioyned all in one, at ende wherof dyd growe
In stede of nayles a rownd tough hoof of welked horne bylowe.
Her head and necke shot foorth in length, her kyrtle trayne beecame
a faire longe tayle, her staryng heare was made a hangyng mane.
And as her native shape and voyce most monstruously dyd passe,
So by the vncooth name of mare shee after termed was
The Centaure Chyron wept hereat: and pyteously dismayde
Dyd cal on thee (although in vayne) thou Delphian God for ayde.
For neyther lay it in thy hande too breake Joues myghty heste,
And thoughe it had, yet in thy state as then thou dyd not reste.
In Elis dyd thou then abyde and in Mellenee lande.
It was the tyme when vnder shape of shepeherde with a wande
Of Olyue and a pype of reedes thou kept Admetus sheepe.
Now in this time that (saue of Loue) thou tooke none other keepe,
And madste thee merry with thy pype, the glystring Maias sonne
By chaunce abrode the fieldes of Pyle spyde certayne cattell ronne
without a herde, the which hee stole and closely dyd them hyde
amonge the woodes. This prety slyght no earthly creature spyde,
Saue one old churle that Battus hyght. This Battus had the charge
Of welthy Neleus feedyng grownde and all his pastures large,
And kept a race of goodly mares. Of hym hee was afrayde.
And lest by hym his priuie theft sholde chaunce too bee bewrayde,
Hee tooke a bribe too stoppe his mouthe, and thus vntoo him saide.
My frynde I pray thee if perchaunce that any man enquire
This Cattell say thou saw them not. And take thou for thy hyre
This fayre yoong Bullocke. Toother tooke the bullocke at his hande,
and shewyng him a certayne stone that lay vppon the lande,
sayde, go thy way: Alsoone this stone thy dooynges shall bewray
as I shall doo. So Mercury dyd seeme too go his way.
Anon hee commes mee backe ageyne, and altred bothe in speeche
and outward shape, saide Countreyman Ich hartely beezeeche,
and if thou zawest any kye come roylyng throwgh this grownde,
Or dryuen away, tel what hee was and where they may bee vownde.
And I chyll gethee vor thy payne an heefar an her match.
The Carle perceyuing dowble gayne, and greedy for to catche,
sayde: vnder yonsame hyll they were, and vnder yonsame hyll
cham zure they are. and with his hande hee poynted therevntyll.
At that Mercurius lawghing saide: false knaue: and dooste bewray
mee too my selfe? dooste thou bewray mee too my selfe I say?
And with that worde strayt too a stone hee turnd his dowble harte,

in whiche the flaunder yet remaynes without the flouds desert.
The Bearer of the charmed Rod the suttle Mercurye
This doone arose with wauyng wynges and frō that place did flye.
And as hee houered in the aire hee viewed the feeldes bylowe
of Atticke and the towne it selfe with all the trees that growe
In Lycey where the learned Clerkes dyd wholsome preceptes showe.
By chaunce the very selfe same day the Virgins of the towne
of olde and auncient custome bare in baskettes on their crowne
beset with garlandes fresh and gay and strowde with flowers sweete
to Pallas towre suche Sacrifice as was of custome meete.
The wynged God beholdynge them returnynge in a troope
continued not directly foorth, but gan mee downe to stoope.
and fetche a wyndlasse rownd abowt. And as the hungry kyte
beholynge vnto sacrifice a Bullocke redy dight,
Dooth sore abowte his wyshed pray desyrous for too snatche
but that hee dareth not for suche as stande abowt and watche:
So Mercurye with nymble wynges dooth keepe a lower gate
abowt Minervas loftie towres in rownd and wheelyng rate.
As farre as dooth the morninge starre in cleare and streamyng light
excell all other starres in heauen: as farre also as bryght
Dame Phebe dymmes the morninge starre, so farre dyd Herses face
staine all the Ladyes of her troope: shee was the very grace
and beautie of that solempne pompe, and all that trayne so fayre.
Joues sonne was ravisht with the sight, and hangyng in the aire
beegan too swelt within hymselfe, in case as when the powlder
hath driuen the pellette from the gonne, the pellet gynnes to smolder
and in his flyinge war more whote. In smokynge brest hee shrowdes
his flames not brought frō heaue aboue but caught beneth the cloudes.
Ye leaues his iourney toward heauen and takes another race
not mynding any lenger tyme to byde his present cace.
So great a trust and confidence his beautie to hym gaue.
whiche thoughe it seemed of it selfe sufficient force to haue,
yet was hee curious for too make hymselfe more fyne and braue.
Hee kempt his head and strokt his beard, and pried on euery syde
too see that in his furniture no wrinckle myght bee spyde
And forbycause his Cloke was fryndged and garded broad with golde,
Hee cast it on his shoulder vp most seemely too beholde.
Hee takes in hand his charmed Rod that bryngeth thynges asleepe
and wakes them when hee lyst ageine. And lastly taketh keepe
that on his fayre welfourmed feete his golden shooes fyt cleene,
and that all other thynges thertoo well correspondent beene.

In Cecrops

In Cecrops Court were Chambers three set farre from all resort
with yuorye beddes all furnished in farre most royall sort.
Of whiche Aglauros had the left and Pandrose had the right,
And Hersee had the myddelmost. Shee that Aglauros hight
Fyrst markt the commyng of the God, and asking him his name
Demaunded hym for what entent and cause he thyther came.
Pleiones nephew Maias sonne dyd make her aunswere thus.
I am my fathers messenger his pleasure too discusse
Too mortall folke and hellishe fiendes as list him too commaund.
My father is the myghty Ioue. Too that thou doost demaunnd
I wyll not feyne a false excuse. I aske no more but graunt
Too keepe thy susters counsell close, and for too bee the Aunt
Of suche the issue as on her my chaunce shalbee too get.
Thy suster Herse is the cause that hath mee hyther set.
I pray thee beare thou with my loue that is so firmely set.)
Aglauros cast on Mercurie her skornefull eyes aspde,
With whiche ageinst Mineruas wyll her secretes late shee spide,
Demaunding hym in recompence a mighty masse of Golde:
And wolde not let hym enter in vntyll the same were told.
The warlike Goddesse cast on her a sterne and cruell looke,
And fetched suche a cutting sighe that forcibly it shooke
bothe brest and brestplate, wherewithall it came vnto her thought
How that Aglauros late a go ageinst her wyll had wrought
In lookyng on the Lemman chylde contrary too her otbe,
The whiche shee tooke her in the chest. for whiche shee inared wrothe.
Ageine shee sawe her cancred harte malitiously reppyne
Ageinst her suster and the God. And furthermore in fyne
How that the golde whiche Mercurie had geuen her for her meede,
Wolde make her bothe in welth and pryde all others too exceede.
Shee goes mee strait too Enuies house, a fowle and irkesome caue
replete with blacke and lothely fylthe and stinkyng lyke a graue.
It standeth in a hollow dale where neyther lyght of sonne
Nor blast of any wynd or aire may for the depenesse come.
A dreyry sad and dolefull denne ay full of slowthfull colde
as whiche ay dymd with smoldryng smoke dooth neuer fyre beholde.
When Pallas that same manly mayde approched nere this plot,
Shee stayde without for too the house in enter might shee not.
And with her Iauelyng poynt dyd geue a pushe ageinst the dooze.
The dooze flew open by and by and fell mee in the flooze.
There sawe shee Enuye syt within fast gnawyng on the fleshe
Of Snakes and toades the fylthy foode that kerues her vyces freshe.
It lothde her too beeholde the syght Anon the Elfe arose

And

And left her gnawed adders flesshe, and slowthfully shee goes
With lumpishe leysure lyke a snayle. and when shee sawe the face
Of Pallas and her fayre attire adournd with heauenly grace,
Shee gaue a sighe a sory syghe from bottom of her hart.
Her lyppes were pale, her cheekes were wan, & all her face was swart:
Her body leane as any Rake. Shee looked eke a skiew.
Her teeth were furde with filth & drosse, her gooms were warysh blew.
The working of her festred gall had made her stomacke greene.
And all beevenymd was her toong. No sleepe her eyes had seene.
Continuall Carke and cankred Care dyd keepe her wakyng styll:
Of lawghter (saue at others harmes) the belhownd can no skyll.
It is ageinst her wyll that men haue any good successe.
And if they haue, shee freates and fumes within her mynde no lesse
Than if her selfe had taken harme. In seekyng too anoy:
And worke distresse too other folke, her selfe shee dooth destroy.
Thus is shee torment too her selfe. Thowgh Pallas did her hate,
Yet spake shee briefely these fewe wordes too her without her gate.
Infect thou with thy venym one of Cecrops dawghters three,
It is Aglauros whom I meane, for so it needes must bee.
This saide, shee pight her speare in growud and tooke her ryse theron.
And wynding from that wicked wight dyd take her flyght anon.
The kaytif cast her eye a side and seing Pallas gon,
Beegan too mumble with her selfe the deuilles paternoosster.
And freatyng at her good successe, beegan too blowe and blustre.
Shee takes a crooked staffe in hande bewreathd with knubbed prickes,
And couered with a coly clowd, where euer that shee stickes
Her fylthy feete, shee tramples downe and seares both grasse and corne:
That all the freshe and fragrant fieldes seme vtterly forlorne.
And with her staffe shee typpeth of the hyghest poppye heades.
Suche poyson also euerywhere vngraciously shee sheades,
That euery Cotage where shee comes and euery towne and Citie
doo take infection at her breath. At length (the more is pytie)
Shee founde the faire Athenian towne that flowed freshely then
In feastfull peace and ioyfull wealth and learned wyttes of men.
And forbycause shee nothynge sawe that myght prouoke too weepe,
It was a corsye to her hart her hatefull teares too keepe.
Now when shee came within the Court, shee went without delay
Directly too the lodgynges where kyng Cecrops dawghters lay.
There dyd shee as Minerua bade. shee layed her skurup fyll
beesmerde with venym and with fylthe vppon Aglauros brist,
The whiche shee fylde with hooked thornes: and breathing on her face
Dyd dread the poyson in her bones: whiche spred it selfe apace,

As blacke

As blacke as euer virgyn pitch throwgh loonges and lightes and all.
And too thentent that cause of griefe abundantly shold fall,
Shee placed aye beefore her eyes her susters happy chaunce
In beeinge wedded too the God, and made the God to glaunce
continually in heauenly shape beefore her wownded thowght.
And all these thynges shee painted out. which in conclusion wrought
suche corsyes in Aglauros brest that sighing day and nyght
Shee gnawde and freated in her selfe for very cankred spyght.
And lyke a wretche shee wastes her selfe with restlesse care and pyne
Lyke as the yse wheron the sonne with glymering light dooth shine.
Her suster Herses good successe dooth make her hart too yerne.
In cace as when that fyre is put too greenefeld wood or fearne
whiche geueth neyther lyght nor heate but smulders quite away:)
Somtyme shee mynded too her syre her suster too beewray,)
Whoo (well shee knewe) wold yll abyde so lewde a part too playe.)
And oft shee thowght with wylfull hande to brust her fatall threede,
bycause shee woold not see the thyng that made her harte too bleede.
At last shee sate her in the doore and leaned too a post,
Too let the God from entring in. Too whom now hauing lost
Much talke and gentle wordes in vaine, shee said: sir leue I pray
For hence I wilnot (be you sure) onlesse you go away.
I take thee at thy word (quoth hee) and therwithal he pusht
His rod against the barred doore, and wide it open rusht.
Shee making profer for to rise, did feele so geeat a weight
through al her lymmes ẏ for her life shee could not stretch her streight.
Shee stroue to set herselfe vpright: but striuing booted not.
Her hamstrings and her knees were stiffe, a chilling cold had got
in at her nailes, through all her limbes. and eke her vaines began
For want of blood and liuely heate, too waxe both pale and wan.
And as the freating Fistula forgrowne and past all cure
Roonnes in the flesh from place to place, and makes the sound & pure
as bad or worser then the rest, euen so the cold of death
Strake to her heart, and closde her veines, and lastly stopt her breath:
Shee made no profer for too speake, and though shee had doone so
it had beene vaine. For way was none for language foorth too go.
Her throte congealed into stone: her mouth became hard stone
and like an ymage sate shee still, her bloud was clerely gone.
The which the venim of her heart so fowly did infect,
that euer after all the stone with freckled spots was spect.
When Mercurie had ponnisht thus Aglauros spightfull toong
And cankred heart immediatly from Pallas towne he floong.
And stying vp with flittering wings did perce to heauen aboue.

His father cald him strait aside (but shewing not his loue)
said: sonne, my trusty messenger and worker of my will
make no delay but out of hand hie downe in hast vntill
the land that on the left syde lookes vpon thy mothers light.
Yonsame where standeth on the coast the towne that Sidon hight.
The king hath there a herd of neate, that on the Mountaines feede.
Go take and driue them too the sea with all conuenient speede.
He had no sooner said the word but that the herd begoonne
Driuen from the mountaine too the shore appointed for to roonne.
Wheras the daughter of the king was wonted to resort,
with other ladies of the Court there for to play and sport.
Betwene the state of maiestie and loue is set such oddes,
as that they cannot dwell in one. The Sire and king of Goddes
Whose hand is armd with triplefire, whoo only with his frowne
makes sea and land and heauen to quake, dooth lay his scepter downe
with al the graue and stately port beelonging theruntoo:
and putting on the shape of Bull (as other cattell doo)
Goes lowing gently vp and downe among them in the field
the fairest beast too looks vpon that euer man beeheld.
For why his colour was as white as any winters snowe.
Before that either trampling feete or Southerne wind it thowe.
His necke was brawnd with rolles of flesh, and from his cheek beefore,
a dangling dewlap hung nee downe good halfe a foote and more.
His hornes were small, but yet so fine as that ye wold haue thought
They had bene made by conning hand or out of war bene wrought.
More clere they were a hundred fold then is the Christall stone
in all his forehead fearfull frowne or wrincle was there none.
No fierse, no grim, nor grisely looks as other cattell haue.
But altogether so demure as frendship seemde too craue.
Agenors daughter marueld much so tame a beast too see,
but yet too touch him at the first too bold shee durst not bee.
anon shee reaches too his mouth her hand with herbes and flowres.
the louing beast was glad thereof and neither frownes nor lowres.
But till the hoped ioy might come with glad and fawning cheere
hee lickes her handes and scars ah scars the restdew hee forbeare
Somtime he friskes and skippes about and showes hor sport at hand
Anon he layes his snowy side against the golden sande.
So feare by litle driuen away, hee offred eft his brest
too stroke and coy, and eft his hornes with flowers too bee drest
At last Europa knowing not (for so the Maid was cald)
On whom shee venturd for too ride, was nerawhit appald
Too set her selfe vppon his backe. Then by and by the God

From

From maine drie land to maine moist sea gan leysurly to plod.
At first hee did but dippe his feete within the outmost waue,
and backe againe, then further in another plunge hee gaue.
and so still further till at last hee had his wished pray
amid the deepe where was no meanes to scape with life away.
The Ladie quaking all for feare with rufull countnance cast,
ay toward shore from whence shee came, held with her righthand fast
one of his hornes: and with the left did stay vpon his backe.
The weather flaskt and whisked vp her garmentes being slacke.

Finis secundi Libri.

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Cum priuiligio ad Imprimendum solum.

For pleant historie read spencers faire queene
sheaphearde, cirlende, Damels matchles beaute
of Delia; Damels distressed Rosamond
michael draytons poem called Polvolbion, warnes
absolute albions England, Sylvie spears venus
Adonis his Lucrece his sugred sonnes
Shakespeare for comedy wittnes his
gentlemen of Verona, his errors, loue labors
lost, loues labor wonne, Midsomers night
dreame &c: his merchant of Venice fortrage
die Rich: 2 Rich: 3 hen: 4 kinq: John titus
andronicus &c: Romeo & Juliet, Doctor Legg of
the destruction of Jerusalem

THe God now hauing layde aside his borrowed shape of bull,
Had in his likenesse shewd him self: And with his prety trul
Cane lãding in the Ile of Crete. when in that while her sire
not knowing where shee was become, sent after too enquire
Her brother Cadmus, charging him his sister home too bring
Or neuer for too come ageine: wherin hee dyd a thinge,
For whiche hee might bothe iustly kinde and cruell called bee.)
when Cadmus ouer al the world had sowght, (for whoo is hee)
That can detect the theftes of Ioue? and no where could her see,)
Then as an outlawe (too auoyde his fathers wrongfull ire)
Hee went too Phebus Oracle most humbly too desyre
His heauenly counsel, where hee wolde assigne him place too dwell.
An Heefar all alone in field (quoth Phebus) marke her well,
whiche neuer bare the pynching yoke, nor drewe the plowgh as yit,
Shall mete theo. followe after her, and where thou seest her syt,
There buyld a towne, and let therof Beötia bee the name.
Downe from Pernasus stately toppe scars fully Cadmus came,
when royling softly in the vale before the herde alone
Hee saw an Heefar, on whose necke of seruage prynt was none.
Hee followed after leysurely as her that was his guyde,
And thanked Phebus in his hart that dyd so well prouyde.
Now had hee past Cephisus forde, and eke the pleasant grownds,
About the Citie Panopee conteind within those bownds.
The Heefar stayd, and lyfting vp her forehead too the skye)
Ful semely for too looke vppon with hornes like braunches hye)
Dyd with her lowing fyll the ayre: and casting backe her eye)
Vppon the rest that came aloofe, as softly as shee couid
Kneeld downe and layde her heary syde ageinst the grassy moold.
Then Cadmus gaue Apollo thankes, and falling flat bylowe
Dyd kysse the grownd: hayle the fieldes whiche yet hee dyd not know.
Hee was about too sacrifice too Ioue the heauenly kyng,
and bade his seruauntes go and fetch hym water of the spryng.
An old forgrowen vnkelled wood stoode neere at hand thereby,
and in the middes a queachie plot with sedge and oysyers hye.
where courbd about with peble stoue in likenesse of a bowe
There was a spryng with syluer streames that forth therof dyd flowe.
Here lurked in his lowryng denne God Mars his grysly Snake
with golden skales and fyrie eyes beswolne with poyson blake.
Three spirting toongues, three rowes of teeth within his head did stick

No sooner had the Tirian folke set foote within this thicke
and queachie plot, and deped downe their bucket in the well,
But that too buscle in his denne began this serpent fell,
and peering with a marble head right horribly too bisse.
The Tirians let their pitchers slip for sodayne feare of this.
And waxing pale as any clay, like folke amazde and slaight,
stood trembling like an Aspen leafe. The speckled serpent straight
commes trailyng out in wauing linkes and knotty rolles of scales,
And bending into bunchie boughts his body forth he hales.
And lifting vp aboue the wast him selfe vntoo the skie,
hee ouerlooketh all the wood, as huge and big welnye
As is the Snake that in the heauen about the Northren pole
deuides the beares. He makes no stay but deales his dreadfull dols
among the Tirians. Whether they did take them too their tooles,
Or too their heeles, or that their feare did make them stand like fooles,
and help themselues by none at both, he snapt vp some aliue,
and swept in others with his taile, and some he did depriue
of life with rankenesse of his breath, and other some againe
he stings and poysons vntoo death till all at last were slaine.
Now when the sonne was at his height and shadowes wared short,
And Cadmus saw his companye make tarience in that sort,
He marueld what should bee their let, and went too seeke them out.
His harnesse was a Lions skinne that wrapped him about.
His weapons were a long strong speare with head of Iron tride,
and eke a light and percing Dart. And theruntoo beside
woorth all the weapons in the world a stout and valeant hart.
When Cadmus came within the wood and saw about that part
his men lie slaine vpon the ground, and eke their cruell fo
of bodye huge stand ouer them, and licking with his blo
and blasting toong their sorie woundes, wel truskie friends (quoth hee)
I eyther of your piteous deathes will streit reuenger bee,
or els will die my selfe therfore. With that hee raughting fast
a mightie millstone, at the snake with all his might it cast.
The stone with such exceding force and violence forth was driuen,
as of a fort the bulwarkes strong and walles it wold haue riuen.
And yet it did the snake no harme: his scales as hard and tough)
as if they had bene plates of mayle did fence him well inough,)
So that the stone rebounded backe against his freckled slough.)
But yet his hardnes savde him not against the perting dart.
For hitting right betweene the scales that yelded in that part
wheras the ioynts doo knit the backe, it thirled through the skin,
and perced too his filthie mawe and greedy guttes within.

He

Yet fierce with wrath wrings back his head, and looking on the stripe
The Jauntling steale that sticked out betweene his teeth dooth gripe.
The which with wresting too and fro at length hee forth did wind.
Saue that hee left the head therof amonge his bones behind.
When of his courage through the wound more kindled was the ire,
his throtebol swelld with puffed veines, his eyes gan sparcle fire.
There stood about his smeared chaps a lothely foming frothe.
his skaled brest ploughes vp the ground, the stinking breath that goth
out from his blacke and hellish mouth infects the herbes full fowle.
Somtime hee windes himselfe in knots as round as any bowle.
Somtime hee stretcheth out in length as streight as any beame.
Anon againe with violent brunt hee rusheth like a streame
encreast by rage of latefalne raine, and with his mighty sway
beares downe the wood beefore his brest that standeth in his way.
Agenors sonne retiring backe dooth with his Lions spoile
defend him from his fierce assaultes, and makes him to recoile
ay holding at the weapons point. The Serpent waxing wood
dooth crash the steele betweene his teeth, and bites it till the blood
Dropt mixt with poyson from his mouth, did dye ỹ grene grasse black.
But yet the wound was very light bicause he writhed backe
and pulde his head still from the stroke: and made the stripe too die
by geuing way, vntill that Cadmus folowing fretfully
the stroke with all his power & might did through the throte him riue,
and nailed him too an oke behind the which hee oke did clyue.
The Serpents waight did make the tree to bend. It griend the tree
his bodye of the serpents taile thus squozed for too bee.

While Cadmus wondred at the hugenesse of his vanquisht foo
Vppon the sodeine came a voice: from whens hee could not knowe.
But sure hee was hee heard the voyce. Which said, Agenors sonne
what gazest thus vpon this snake: the time will oneday comme
that thou thy selfe shalt bee a snake, Ye pale and wan for feare,
had lost his speech: and ruffled vp stiffe staring stood his heare.
Behold (mans helper at his neede) Dame Pallas gliding through
the vacant aire was strait at hand, and bade him take a plough
and cast the serpents teeth in ground, as of the which should spring
another people out of hand. Hee did in euerie thing
as Pallas bade, hee tooke a plough and eard a forrow low
and sowde the serpents teeth wherof the foresaid folke should grow.
Anon (a wondrous thing too tell) the clodes began too moue,
and from the forow first of al the pikes appeerd aboue.
nert rose vp helmes with fethred crests, and then the poldrens brighe,
successiuely the Curets whole, and all the armor right.

Thus grew vp men lyke corne in field in rankes of battell ray
with shieldes and weapons in their handes to feight the field that day.
Euen so when stages are attyrde ageinst some solemne game,
with clothes of Arras gorgeously, in drawing vp the same
The faces of the ymages doo fyrst of all them showe,
and then by peecemeale al the rest in order seemes too growe,
Untyll at last they stand out full vppon their feete bylowe.

Afrighted at his new fownd foes gan Cadmus for too take
hym too his weapons by and by resistens for too make.
Stay, stay thy selfe (kryde one of them that late beefore were bred
Out of the grownd) and meddle not with ciuill warres. This sed,
One of the broothers of that brood with launcyng sword hee slewe.
A nother sent a dart at him, the whiche him ouerthrewe.
The thyrd dyd strayt as muche for hym and made him yelde the breath,
(The whiche hee had receiude but now) by stroke of forced death.
Lykewise outraged all the rest vntyll that one by one
By mutuall stroke of ciuill warre dispatched euerychone,
This brood of broothers all beebewen and weltred in their blood
Lay sprawlyng on their moothers womb the grownd where erst they
Saue onely fyue that dyd remaine. Of whom Echion led (stood,
By Pallas counsell, threwe away the helmet from his head,
and with his broothers gan too treate attonement for too make.
The whiche at length (by Pallas helpe) so good succesle dyd take,
That faythfull frendshyp was confirmd and hand in hand was plyght.)
These afterward dyd well assist the noble Tyrian knyght,
In buylding of the famous towne that Phebus had beehight.

Now Thebes stood in good estate, now Cadmus myght thou say
That when thy father banisht thee it was a lucky day.
Too ioyne alyance bothe with Mars and Venus was thy chaunce,
whose dawghter thou hadst tane too wyfe, who did thee muche aduãce,
Not onely through her high renowne, but through a noble race
Of sonnes and dawghters that shee bare: whose chyldren in lyke cace
It was thy fortune for too see all men and women growne.
But ay the ende of euery thing must marked bee and knowen.
For none the name of blessednesse deserueth for too haue
Onlesse the tenour of his life last blessed too his graue.
Among so many prosperous happes that flowde with good succesle,
Thyne eldest Nephew was a cause of care and sore distresse. (woode
whose head was armd with palmed hornes, whose owne houndes in the
Dyd pull their master too the grownd & fil them with his blood.
But if you syft the matter well, ye shall not fynde desert
but cruell fortune too haue bene the cause of this his smart.

For

For whoo could dooe with ouersyght? great slawghter had ben made
Of sundry sortes of sauage beastes one mornyng: and the shade
Of thinges was waren very shorte. It was the tyme of day
That myd betwene the East and west the sonne dooth seeme too stay.
When as the Thebane strypling thus beespake his company,
Styll raunging in the wayleese woodes some further game too spye.
Our weapons and our toyles are moyst and staind with blood of beets:
This day hath doone ynowgh as by our quarry may appeere.
Allone as with her skarlet wheles next morning bryngeth light,
wee wyll about our worke agein. But now Hiperion bryght
Is in the middes of Heauen, and seares the fieldes with fyrie rayes.
Take vp your toyles, and cease your worke, and let vs go our wayes.
They dyd euen so, and ceast their worke. There was a valley thicke
With Pinapple and Cipresse trees that armed bee with pricke.
Gargaphie bight this shady plot, it was a sacred place
Too chast Diana and the Nymphes that wayted on her grace.
Within the furthest ende therof there was a pleasant Bowre,
So vaulted with the leauy trees the sonne had there no powre:
Not made by hande nor mannes deuyse: and yet no man aliue,
A trymmer piece of worke then that could for his lyfe contriue.
With flynt and Pommy was it walld by nature halfe about,
And on the ryght side of the same full freshely flowed out
A liuely springe with Chrystall streame: wherof the vpper brym
was greene with grasse and matted herbes that smelled very trym.
When Phebee felt her selfe ware faint, of following of her game,
It was her custome for too come and bathe her in the same.
That day shee hauing timely left her hunting in the chace,
was entred with her troope of Nymphes within this pleasant place.
Shee tooke her quiuer and her bowe the whiche shee had vnbent,
and eke her Jauelin too a Nymph that serued that intent.
Another Nymph too take her clothes among her trayne shee chose,
Two loosde her buskinnes from her legges and pulled of her hose.
The Thebane lady Crocalee more conning then the rest
Dyd trusse her tresses handsomly which hunge behynde vnbrest.
And yet her own hoong wauing still. Then Nephee neate and cleene
With Hiale glysteringe like the grasse in beawtie freshe and sheene,
And Rhanis clerer of her skynne then are the rayny droppes,
And lytle bybling Phyalee, and Pseke that pretye mops,
Powrd water intoo vesselles large too washe their lady with.
Now while shee kepes this wont, beeholde, by wandring in the tryth
Hee wist not whither (hauing staid his pastime till the morrowe)
Commes Cadmus nephew too this thicke: and entring in with sorrowe

(Such was his cursed cruell fate) sawe Phebee where she washt.
The damselles at the sight of man quite out of countnance dasht,
(Bycaase they euerichone were bare and naked to the quicke)
Dyd beate their handes against their brestes, and cast out such a shricke,
That all the wood did ring therof: and clingyng to their dame
Dyd all they could to hyde both her and eke themselues fro shame.
But Phebee was of personage so comly and so tall,
That by the middle of her necke shee ouerpeerd them all.
Such colour as apperes in heauen by Phebus broken rayes
Directly shynyng on the cloudes, or such as is alwayes
The colour of the mornyng cloudes before the sonne dooth showe,
Such sanguine colour in the face of Phebee gan to glowe
there standyng naked in his syght. who though shee had her gard
Of Nymphes about her: yet she turned her body from him ward.
And casting backe an angrye looke, lyke as shee wold haue sent
an arrow at hym had she had her bowe there ready bent.
So raught she water in her hand: and for to wreake the spight
Besprincled all the head and face of this vnlucky knight,
And thus forespake the heauy lot that shoold vppon him light.
Now make thy vaunt among thy mates, thou sawste Diana bare.
Tell yf thou can: I geue the leaue: tell hardly: doo not spare.
This doome shee makes no further threates, but by and by dooth spred
A payre of lyuely old hartes hornes vppon his sprincled head.
She sharpes his eares, she makes his necke bothe slender, long & lanke.
Shee turnes his fyngars into feete, his armes too spindle shanke.
Shee wrappes him in a heary hyde beset with speckled spottes,
And planteth in him fearfulnesse. and so away he trottes.
Full greatly wondryng to himself what made him in that case
Too bee so wight and swift of foote. But when he sawe his face
and horned temples in the brooke, hee woold haue kryde alas,
But as for than no kynd of speche out from his lippes could passe.
He syght and brayde: for that was than the speche that dyd remayne,
and downe the eyes that were not his, his bitter teares dyd rayne.
No part remayned (saue his mynd) of that he erst had bene.
What shold he doo? turne home agayne to Cadmus and the Quene?
Or hyde himself among the wooddes? Of this he was afrayd,
And of the tother ill ashamde. Whyle dowting thus he stayd,
His houndes espyde hym where he was and Blackefoote fyrst of all
and Stalker speciall good of cent began alowd to call.
This latter was a hound of Crete, the tother was of Spart.
Then all the kenell fell in round, and euery for his part,
Dyd follow freshly in the chace more swifter then the winde,

Spy

Spy, Cateal, Scalecliffe, three good hounds comne all of Arcas kynd.
Strong kylbucke, currishe Sauage, Spring, and Hunter fresh of smel,
And lightfoote whoo too leade a chace did beare away the bell.
Fierce woodman hurt not longe ago in huntyng of a boze,
And shepeherd wont to follow shepe and neate to fyeld afoze.
And launde a fell and eger bitch that had a wolf to Syze:
Another brache cald Gredigut with twoo her puppies by her.
And Ladon gant as any grewnd a hownd in Speton bred,
Blab, fletewood, patch whose flecked skyn w sundry spots was spred:
Wight, bowman, royster, beautye faire and whyght as winters snow,
And Tawny full of dusky heares that ouer all did growe,
with lusty Ruffler passing all the resdew there in strength,
And Tempest best of footemanshippe in holdyng out at length.
And Cole, and swift, and little woolf, as wight as any other.
Accompanyde with a Cipzian hound that was his native brother,
And Snatch amyd whose forehead stood a starre as whyte as snowe,
The resdew being all as blacke and slycke as any crowe.
And shacky Rugge with other twayne that had a Syze of Crete,
and Dam of Sparta: Tone of them cald Jollyboy, a great
and large flewd hound: the tother Chozle who euer gnoozryng went,
And Ringwood with a shyzle loud mouthe the which he freely spent.
With dyuers mo whoose names too tell it were but losse of tyme.
This fellowes ouer hill and dale in hope of pzay doos clyme,
through thicke and thinne & cragged cliffes where was no way too go,
He flyes through groundes where oftentymes he chaced had ere tho.
Euen from his owne folke is he fayne (alas) to fly away.
He straynde oftentymes to speake, and was about to say.
I am Acteon: know your Lozd and Maister Syzs I pzay.
But vse of woozdes & speeche dyd want to vtter fozth his mynd.
Thezr krye dyd ryng through all the wood redoubled with the wynd,
Fyzst Slo dyd pynch hym by the haunche, and nezt came kyldeere in,
And Hylbzed sasinyng on his sholder, bote him through the skynne.
Theis came fozthe later than the resi, but coasting thwart a hyll
They did gaynecope him as he came, and held thezr Maister still
Untill that all the resi came in, and fastened on him too.
No part of him was free from wound. Hee could none other dooe,
But sygh, and in the shape of hart with voyce as hertes are woont,
(Fozr voyce of man was none now left to helpe him at the bzunt)
By brayng shew his secret grief among the mountaines hye,
And kneelyng sadly on his knees with dzerie teares in eye,
As one by humblyng of himself that mercy semde to craue,
with pyteous looke in stead of handes his head about to waue.

Not

Not knowing that it was their lorde the huntsmen cheere their hounds
with wonted noyse and for Acteon looke about the groundes.
They hallow whoo could lowdest krye still calling him by name,
as though hee were not there. & much his absens they doo blame,
In that hee came not too the fall, but slackt too see the game.
As often as they named hym hee sadly shooke his head,
and fayne hee wold haue bene away thens in some other steade.
But there hee was. and well hee coulde haue founde in harte too see
His dogges fell dedes, so that too feele in place hee had not bee.
They hem him in on euery syde, and in the shape of Stagge,
with gredy teethe and griping pawes their lorde in pieces dragge.
So fierce was cruell Phebees wrath, it coulde not bee alayde,
Till of his fault by bitter deathe the raunsome hee had payde.
Much muttering was vppon this fact. some thought there was erth-
a great deale more extremitie then neded. Some cõmended (ded
Dianas dooing: saying that it was but woorthely
For saufgard of her woomanhod. Eche partie dyd applie
Good reasons too defend their case. Alone the wyfe of Ioue,
Of liking or misliking it not all so greatly stroue,
As secretely reioyst in hart that suche a plague was lyght
On Cadmus linage: turning all the malice and the spight
Conceiued erst ageinst the wench that Ioue had fet fro Tyre,
Appon the kynred of the wench. and for too fierce her ire,
a nother thing cleane ouerthwart there commeth in the nicke.
The lady Semell great with chyld by Ioue as than was quicke.
Hereat shee gan too freate and fume, and for too ease her hart,
whiche else wold burst, shee fell in hande with scolding out her part.
And what a goodierere haue I woon by scolding erst? (shee sed)
It is that arrant queane her selfe, ageinst whose wycked head
I must assay too geeue assault: and if (as men mee call)
I bee that Iuno whoo in heauen beare greatest swynge of all,
If in my hand I woorthy bee too hold the royall mace,
And if I bee the queene of heauen and soueraine of this place,
Or wife and suster vntoo Ioue, (his suster well I know:
But as for wife that name is vaine, I serue but for a showe,
Too couer other prinie skapes) I will confound that whore.
Now (with a mischief) is shee bagd and beareth out beefore,
Her open shame too all the world, and shortly hopes too bee
The moother of a sonne by Ioue, the which hath hapt too mee
not passing ones in all my time, so fore shee dooth presume
Appon her beautie. But I trowe her hope shall soone consume.
For neuer let mee counted bee for Saturnes dawghter more,

If by

If by her owne dere darling Ioue on whom shee trustes so sore,
I send her not too Stixes streame. This ended, vp shee rose
and couered in golden cloud too Semelles house shee goes.
And ere shee sent away the cloud, shee takes an old wiues shape
with hory heare and riueled skinne, with slow and crooked gate.
As though shee had the palsey had her feble limmes did shake,
and eke shee foltred in the mouth as often as shee spake.
She seemde olde Beldame Beroe of Epidaure too bee,
This Ladie Semelles nource as right as though it had bene shee.
So when that after mickle talke of purpose ministred
Ioues name was vpned: by and by shee gaue a sigh and sed,
I wish with all my hart that Ioue bee cause too thee of this.
But daughter dere I dread the worst, I feare it bee amisse.
For many verlets vnder name of Goddes too serue their lust,
haue into vndefiled beddes themselues full often thrust.
And though it bene the mightie Ioue yet dooth not that suffize,
Onlesse hee also make the same apparant too our eyes.
And if it bee euen verie hee I say it dooth behoone,
He proue it by some open signe and token of his loue.
And therfore pray him for too graunt that looke in what degree,
what order, fashion, sort, and state hee vse too companie
with mightie Iuno, in the same in euerie point and cate,
Too all intents and pourposes hee thee likewise embrace,
and that hee also bring with him his bright threeforked mace:
With such instructions Iuno had enformed Cadmus neece:
And shee poore sillie simple soule immediatly on this
Requested Ioue to graunt a boone the which shee did not name.
Aske what thou wilt sweete hart (q hee) thou shalt not misse the same
and for too make thee sure herof the grisely Stigian lake
which is the feare and God of Goddes beare witnes for thy sake.
She ioying in her owne mischaunce, not hauing any power
Too rule herselfe, but making speede too hast her fatall hower,
In which shee through her louers helpe should worke her owne decay,
said: Such as Iuno findeth you when you and shee doo play,
the games of Venus, such I pray thee shew thy selfe too mee
in euerie cace. The God wold faine haue stopt her mouth. but shee
had made such hast that out it was. Which made him sigh full sore,
for neither shee could then vnwish the thing shee wisht before,
nor hee reuoke his solemne othe. wherfore with sory hart
and beauie countnaunce by and by too heauen hee dooth depart.
And makes too folowe after him with looke full grim and stoure
the flakie clouds all grisly blacke, as when they threat a shoure.

Too whiche hee added mirt with wind a fierce and flasshing flame,
with drye and dreadfull thunderclappes and lightning too the same
of deadly vnauoyded dynt. And yet as muche as may
Hee goes about his vehement force and fierceneſſe too alay.
Hee dooth not arme him with the fyre with whiche hee dyd remoue
The Gyant with the hundred handes Typhoeus from aboue:
It was too cruell and too sore too vse ageinſt his loue.
The Cyclops made an other kinde of lightnyng farre more lyght,
wherein they put muche leſſe of fire, leſſe fierceneſſe, leſſer might.
It bight in heauen the second mace. Joue armes him ſelf with this
And enters intoo Cadmus howſe where Semelles chamber is.
Shee beinge mortall was too weake and feebie too withſtand
Suche troublous tumultes of the heauens: and therfore out of hand
was burned in her louers armes. But yet hee tooke away
His infant from the moothers womb vnperfect as it lay,
and (if a man may credit it) dyd in his thigh it sowe,
where bidyng out the moothers tyme it did too ryperneſſe growe.
And when the time of byrthe was come his aunt the Lady Ine
Dyd nource hym for a while by ſtealth and kept him trym and syne.
The Nymphes of Nysa afterward did in their bowres him hyde,
and brought him vp with milke tyll tyme hee mighte abrode bee spyde.
Now while theſe thinges were doone on earth, that by fatal dooms
The twice borne Bacchus had a tyme too mannes eſtate too come,
They say that Joue diſpoſde too myrthe as hee and Juno ſate
a drynkyng Nectar after meate in ſporte and pleaſant rate,
Did fall a ieſting with his wyfe, and ſaide: a greater pleaſure
In Venus games ye women haue then men beeyonde all meaſure.
Shee anſwerd no. too trye the truthe, they bothe of them agree
The wiſe Tyreſias in this cace indifferent iudge too bee,
whoo boothe the man and womans ioyes by tryall vnderſtood.
For finding ones twoo mighty ſnakes engendryng in a wood,
Hee ſtrake them ouerthwart the backes, by meanes whereof beeholde
(as ſtrange a thing too bee of truthe as euer yet was tolde)
Hee beeinge made a woman ſtreight, ſeuen wynter lyued ſo.
The eight hee finding them agein dyd ſay vntoo them tho:
And if too ſtrike yee haue ſuche powre as for too turne their ſhape
That are the geuers of the ſtrype, beefore you hens eſcape,
One ſtripe nowe wyll I lend you more. Hee ſtrake them as beefore
And ſtraight returnd his former ſhape in whiche hee fyrſt was borne.
Tyreſias therfore beeing tane too iudge this ieſting ſtryfe,
Gaue ſentence on the ſyde of Joue. The whiche the queene his wyfe
dyd take a greatedeale more too hart then neded, and in ſpyght

Too wreake

Too wreake her teene vppon her iudge, bereft hym of his syght.
But Ioue (for too the Goddes it is vnlefull too vndoe
The thynges whiche other of the Goddes by any meanes haue doone)
Dyd geue him sight of thinges too come for losse of syght of eye,
And so his greuous ponnishement with honour dyd supply.
By meanes whereof within a while in Citie, fielde, and towne
throughe all the coast of Aöny was bruted his renowne.
And folke too haue their fortunes readde that dayly dyd resorte
Were answerd so as none of them coulde geue him misreporte.
The first that of his soothfast woordes had proofe in all the realme
Was freckled Lyriop, whom somtime surprised in his streame,
The flood Cephisus dyd enforce. This Lady bare a sonne
Whose bealwty at his very byrth might iustly loue haue wonne.
Narcissus did shee call his name. Of whom the prophete sage
Demaunded if the childe should lyue too many yeres of age,
Wade answere, yea full longe, so that him selfe bee doo not knowe.
The soothsayers woordes semde long but vaine, vntyl the end did showe
His saying too bee true in deede by straungenesse of the rage,
And straungenesse of the kynde of death that did abridge his age.
For when yeres threetimes fiue and one he fully lyued had,
So that bee seemde too stande betwene the state of man and lad,
The hartes of dyuers trym yoongmen his bealwtye gan too moue
And many a Lady freshe and faire was taken in his loue.
But in that grace of Natures gift suche passinge pride did reigne
That too bee towcht of man or mayde bee wholly did disdaine.
A babbling Nymphe that Echo hight: whoo hearing oothers talke
By no meanes can restraine her toonge but that it needes must walke,
Nor of her selfe hath powre too gynne to speake too any wyght,
Espide him dryuing intoo toyles the fearefull stagges of flyght.
This Echo was a body than and not an onely voyce,
Yet of her speche shee had that tyme no more than nowe the choyce.
That is too say of many woordes the latter too repeate.
The cause therof was Junos wrath. For when that with the feate
Shee might haue often taken Ioue in dalyance with his dames,
And that by stealth and vnbeewares in middes of all his games.
This elf wold with her tatling talke deteine her by the way,
Untyll that Ioue had wrought his wyll and they were fled away.
The whiche whan Juno dyd perceiue, shee saide with wrathful mood,
This toongue that hath deluded mee shall doo thee little good,
For of thy speeche but symple vse hereafter shalt thou haue.
The deede it selfe did streight confirme the threatnings that shee gaue.
Yet Echo of the former talke dooth double oft the ende

Too whiche hee added mirt with wind a fierce and flasshing flame,
with dyre and dreadfull thunderclappes and lightning too the same
of deadly vnauoyded dynt. And yet as muche as may
Hee goes about his vehement force and fiercenesse too alay.
Hee dooth not arme him with the fyre with whiche hee dyd remoue
The Gyant with the hundred handes Typhoeus from aboue:
It was too cruell and too sore too vse ageinst his loue.
The Cyclops made an other kinde of lightnyng farre more lyght,
wherein they put muche lesse of fire, lesse fierceneſſe, lesser might.
It bight in heauen the second mace. Joue armes him self with this
And enters intoo Cadmus howse where Semelles chamber is.
Shee beinge mortall was too weake and feeble too withstand
Suche troublous tumultes of the heauens: and therfore out of hand
was burned in her louers armes. But yet hee tooke away
His infant from the moothers womb vnperfect as it lay,
and (if a man may credit it) dyd in his thigh it sowe,
where bidyng out the moothers tyme it did too ripenesse growe.
And when the time of byrthe was come his aunt the Lady Ine
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and brought him vp with milke tyll tyme hee mighte abrode bee spyde.
Now while these thinges were doone on earth, & that by fatal dooms
The twice borne Bacchus had a tyme too mannes estate too come,
They say that Joue disposde too myrthe as hee and Juno sate
a drynkyng Nectar after meate in sporte and pleasant rate,
Did fall a iesting with his wyfe, and saide: a greater pleasure
In Venus games ye women haue then men beeyonde all measure.
Shee answerd no. too trye the truthe, they bothe of them agree
The wise Tyresias in this cace indifferent iudge too bee,
whoo boothe the man and womans ioyes by tryall vnderstood.
For finding ones twoo mighty snakes engendryng in a wood,
Hee strake them ouerthwart the backes, by meanes wherof beeholde
(as strange a thing too bee of truthe as euer yet was tolde)
Hee beeinge made a woman streight, seuen wynter lyued so.
The eight bee finding them agein dyd say vntoo them tho:
And if too strike yee haue suche powre as for too turne their shape
That are the geuers of the stryppe, beefore you hens escape,
One stripe nowe wyll I lend you more. Hee strake them as beefore
And straight returnd his former shape in whiche hee fyrst was borne.
Tyresias therfore beeing tane too iudge this iesting stryfe,
Gaue sentence on the syde of Joue. The whiche the queene his wyfe
dyd take a greatedeale more too hart then neded, and in spyght

Too wreake

Too wreake her teene vppon her iudge, bereft hym of his syght.
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The thynges whiche other of the Goddes by any meanes haue doe)
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And so his greuous punnishement with honour dyd supply.
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Throughe all the coast of Aöny was bruted his renowne.
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Demaunded if the childe shoold lyue too many yeres of age,
Wade answere, yea full longe, so that him selfe hee doo not knowe.
The soothsayers woordes semde long but vaine, vntyl the end did showe
His saying too bee true in deede by straungenesse of the rage,
And straungenesse of the kynde of death that did abridge his age.
For when yeres thretimes fiue and one he fully lyued had,
So that hee seemde too stande betwene the state of man and lad,
The hartes of dyuers trym yoongmen his bealwtye gan too moue
And many a Lady freshe and faire was taken in his loue.
But in that grace of Natures gift suche passinge pride did reigne
That too bee towcht of man or mayde hee wholly did disdaine.
A bablyng Nymphe that Echo hight: whoo hearing oothers talke
By no meanes can restraine her toonge but that it needes must walke,
Nor of her selfe hath powre too gynne to speake too any wyght,
Espide him dryuing intoo toyles the fearefull stagges of flyght.
This Echo was a body than and not an onely voyce,
Yet of her speche shee had that tyme no more than nowe the choyce.
That is too say of many woordes the latter too repeate.
The cause therof was Junos wrath. For when that with the feate
Shee might haue often taken Ioue in dalyance with his dames,
And that by stealth and vnbeewares in middes of all his games.
This elf wold with her tatling talke deteine her by the way,
Untyll that Ioue had wrowght his wyll and they were fled away.
The whiche whan Juno dyd perceiue, shee saide with wrathful mood,
This toongue that hath deluded mee shall doo thee little good,
For of thy speeche but symple vse hereafter shalt thou haue.
The deede it selfe did streight confirme the threatnings that shee gaue.
Yet Echo of the former talke dooth double oft the ende

And backe againe with iuſt report the woordes erſt ſpoken ſend.
Now when ſhe ſawe Narciſſus ſtray about the foreſt wyde,
ſhe wared warme and ſteppe for ſteppe faſt after him ſhe tyde.
The more ſhe followed after him & nerer that ſhe came,
the whoter euer tyde ſhe wax as nearer to her flame.
Lyke as the lyuely brimſtone dooth which dypt about a match
and put but ſoftly to the fyre, the flame dooth lyghtly catch.
O lord how often woold ſhee faine (if nature woold haue let)
entreated him with gentle woordes ſome fauour for to get?
But nature woold not ſuffer her nor geue her leaue to ginne.
Yet (ſo farre forthe as ſhe by graunt at natures hand could winne)
Ay ready with attentiue care ſhe harkens for ſome ſound,
Wherto ſhee myght replie her woords, from which ſhee is not bound.
By chaunce the ſtrayed from all his companye,
ſayd: is there any bodye nye? ſtraight Echo anſwerd: I.
Amazde he caſtes his eye aſyde, and looketh round about,
And come (that all the foreſt roong) aloud he calleth out.
And comme (ſaieth ſhe:) he looketh backe, and ſeyng noman followe,
Why flyſte he cryeth ones agayne: and ſhe the ſame dooth hallowe.
He ſtill perſiſtes and woondring much what kynd of thyng it was
From which that anſwerying voyce by turne ſo duly ſeemde to paſſe,
Sayd: let vs ioyne. ſhe (by her will deſyrous to haue ſed,
In faith with none more willingly at any tyme or ſtead)
ſaid: let vs ioyne. And ſtandyng ſomewhat in her owne conceite,
Vppon theis woordes ſhe left the wood, and forthe ſhe yedeth ſtreit,
To coll the louely necke for which ſhe longed had ſo much.
He roonnes his way and wilnot be embraced of no ſuch.
And ſaith: I fyrſt will dye ere thou ſhalt take of me thy pleaſure.
She anſwered nothyng els therto, but take of me thy pleaſure.
Now when ſhe ſawe herſelf thus mockt, ſhee gate her too the woodes,
And hyd her head for very ſhame among the leaues and buddes.
And euer ſyns ſhee lyues alone in dennes and hollow caues.
Yet ſtacke her loue ſtill too her hart, through which ſhe dayly raues
The more for ſorrow of repulſe. Through reſtleſſe carke and care
Her bodye pynes to ſkinne and bone, and wareth wonderous bare.
The blood dooth vaniſh into ayre from out of all her veynes,
And nought is left but voyce and bones: the voyce yet ſtill remaines:
Her bones they ſay were turnd too ſtones. From thens ſhe lurking ſtill
In woodes, will neuer ſhewe her head in feeld nor yet on hill.
Yet is ſhee heard of euery man: it is her onely ſound,
And nothing els that dooth remayne aliue aboue the ground.
Thus had hee mokt this wretched nymph and many mo beſyde,

That

That in the waters, woods and groues, or mountaynes did abyde
Thus had he mocked many men. Of which one miscontent
too see himself deluded so: his handes too heauen vp bent,
and sayd: I pray too God hee may ones feele fierce Cupids fire
As I dooe now, and yet not ioy the thinges hee dooth desyre.
The Goddesse Rhamnuse (whoo dooth wreake on wicked people take)
Assented too his iuste requeste for ruthe and pities sake.
There was a spring without en mudde as syluer clere and still.
Which neyther shepeherdes, nor the goates that fede vppon the hil,
Nor other cattell troubled had, nor sauage beast had stird,
Nor braunche nor sticke, nor leaf of tree, nor any fowle nor byrd.
The moysture fed and kept ay fresh the grasse that grew about,
And with their leaues the trees did keepe the heate of Phebus out.
The strypling wearye with the heate and huntyng in the chace,
And much delighted with the spring and coolnesse of the place,
Dyd lay him doune vppon the brymme: and as he stooped lowe
to staunche his thurst, another thurst of worse effect did growe.
For as hee dranke, hee chaunst too spye the ymage of his face,
The which hee dyd immediatly with feruent loue embrace.
He fedes a hope without cause why. For lyke a foolish noddye
He thinkes the shadowe that he sees, too bee a lyuely boddye.
Astraughted lyke an ymage made of marble stoone he lyes,
There gazing on his shadow still with fixed staryng eyes.
Stretcht all along vppon the ground, it dooth him good too see
His ardant eyes which lyke two starres full bright and shyning bee.
And eke his syngars, syngars such as Bacchus might beseeme,
and heare that one might worthely Apollos heare it deeme.
His beardlesse chynne and yuorie necke, and eke the perfect grace
Of white and redde indifferently bepainted in his face.
All theese he woondreth too beeholde, for which (as I doo gather)
Hymself was too bee woondred at, or too bee pytied rather.
He is enamored of hymself for want of takyng hede.
And where he lykes another thyng, he lykes himself in dede.
He is the partie whom he wooes, and suter that dooth wooe,
He is the flame that settes on fyre, and thyng that burneth tooe.
O Lord how often dyd he kysse that false deceitfull thyng?
How often dyd he thrust his armes mydway into the spryng?
Too haue embrasse the necke he sawe and could not catch hymself?
He knowes not what it was he sawe. And yet the foolish elf
Dooth burne in ardent loue therof. The very selfsame thing
That dooth bewitch and blynd his eyes. encreaseth still his fyng.

Thou fondlyng thou why dooſt thou raught the fickle image ſo?
the thing thou ſeekeſt is not there. and if aſide thou go,
the thing thou loueſt ſtrait is gone. It is none other matter
that thou dooſt ſee, than of thy ſelf the ſhadow in the water.
The thing is nothing of it ſelf: with thee it dooth abyde,
with thee it wold depart if thou withdrew thy ſelfe aſide.
No care of meate could draw him thence, nor yet deſire of reſt.
But lyng flat againſt the ground, and leaning on his breſt,
with greedie eyes bee gazeth ſtill vppon the falced face,
and through his ſight is wrought his bane. Yet for a litle ſpace
bee turnes and ſets himſelfe vpright) and holding vp his hands
with pitious voice vntoo the wood that rounde about him ſtands,
Cries out and ſes: alas yee woods, and was there euer any?
that lodde ſo cruelly as I? you know: for vntoo manye
a place of harbrough haue you beene, and fort of refuge ſtrong.
Can you remember any one in all your time ſo long?
that hath ſo pinde away as I? I ſee and am full faine,
howbeit that I like and ſee I cannot yet attaine:
So great a blindneſſe in my hart through doting loue dooth reigne.
and for too ſpight mee more withall, it is no iorney farre,
no drenching Sea, no mountaine hie, no wall, no locke, no barre,
it is but euen a little droppe that keepes vs twoo a ſunder.
Yee wold bee had. For looke how oft I kiſſe the water vnder,
So oft againe with vpward mouth bee riſeth toowards mee.
A man wold thinke too touch at leaſt I ſhoold yet able bee.
It is a trifle in reſpect that lets vs of our loue.
What wight ſoeuer that thou art come hither vp aboue.
O pierleſſe piece why dooſt thou mee thy louer thus delude?
or whither flitſt thou of thy friend thus earneſtly purſude?
I wis I neyther am ſo fowle nor yet ſo growen in yeares
that in this wiſe thou ſhooldſt mee ſhon. Too haue mee too their feeres
the Nymphes thẽſelues haue ſude ere this. And yet (as ſhoold appeere)
thou dooſt pretend ſome kind of hope of frendſhip by thy cheere.
For when I ſtretch mine armes to thee, thou ſtretcheſt thine likewiſe.
And if I ſmile thou ſmileſt too: and when that from mine eyes
The teares doo droppe, I well perceiue the water ſtands in thine.
Like geſture alſo dooſt thou make too euery becke of mine.
and as by mouing of thy ſweete and louely lippes I weene,
thou ſpeakeſt woordes although mine eares conceiue not what they
It is my ſelf. I well perceiue, it is mine image ſure, (beene.
that in this ſort deluding mee this furie dooth procure.
I am enamored of my ſelfe, I doo both ſet on fire,

and

and am the same that swelteth too, through impotent desire.
What shall I doo: bee woode or wooe: whom shall I wooe therfore:
The thing I seke is in my selfe. my plentie makes mee poore.
O wold too God I for a while might from my body part.)
This wishe is straunge too heare a louer wrapped all in smart,)
Too wish away the thing the which hee loueth as his hart.)
my sorow takes away my strength. I haue not long too liue,
But in the flowre of youth must die. too die it dooth not grieue.
For that by death shall come the ende of all my griefe and payne)
I wold this yongling whom I loue might lenger life obteine:)
For in one soule shall now decay wee stedfast louers twayne.)
This said in rage hee turnes agayne vntoo the foresaid shade)
And rores the water with the teares and sloubering that he made,)
That through his troubling of the well his image gan too fade.)
Which when hee saw too vanish so, oh whither doost thou flie:
abyde I pray thee hartely, aloud hee gan too crye.
Forsake mee not so cruellye that loueth thee soo deere,
But geue mee leaue a litle while my dazled eyes too cheere
with sight of that which for too touch is vtterly denide,
therby too feede my wretched rage and furie for a tide.
As in this wise hee made his mone, hee stripped of his cote
and with his fist outragiously his naked stomacke smote.
A ruddy colour where he smote rose on his stomacke shere,
lyke apples which doo partly white and striped red appeere.
Or as the clusters ere the grapes too ripenes fully come:
an Orient purple beere and there beginnes too growe on some.
Which things assoone as in the spring hee did behold againe,
hee could no lenger beare it out. But feinting streight for paine,
as lithe and supple ware dooth melt against the burning flame
or morning dewe against the sonne that glareth on the same:
Euen so by piecemale being spent and wasted through desire,
did hee consume and melt away with Cupides secret fire.
his liuely hew of white and red, his cheerfulnes and strength
and all the things that liked him did wanze away at length.
So that in fine remained not the bodye which of late
the wretched Echo loued so. Who when shee saw his state,
although in hart shee angrie were, and mindfull of his pride,
yet rewing his vnhappie case, as often as hee cride
alas, shee cride alas likewise with shirle redoubled sound.
And when hee beat his brest, or strake his feete against the ground,
shee made like noise of clapping too. These are the woordes that last
out of his lippes beholding still his wonted image past.

Alas

Alas sweete boy beloude in vaine, farewell. And by and by
with sighing sound the self same wordes the Echo did reply.
With that hee laid his wearie head against the grassie place)
and death did close his gazing eyes that wondred at the grace)
and beawtie which did late adorne their maisters heauenly face)
And afterward when intoo hell receiued was his spright
hee goes mee too the well of Stix, and there both day and night
stands tooting on his shadow still as fondly as beefore.)
The waternimphes his sisters wept and wayled for hym sore)
and on his bodye strowde their heare clipt of and thorne therefore.)
The woodnimphes also did lament. And Echo did rebound
too euery sorowfull noyse of theirs with like lamenting sound.
The fire was made too burne the corse, and waren tapers light.
a herce too lay the bodie on with solemne pomp was dight.
But as for bodie none remaind: In stead therof they found
a yellow flowre with milke white leaues new sprong vpon the ground

This matter all Achaia through did spred the prophets fame:
That euery where of iust desert renowmed was his name.

But Penthey old Echions sonne (who proudly did disdaine
both God and man) did laugh too scorne the prophets wordes as vaine,
vpbrading him most spitefullye with loosing of his sight,
and with the fact for which hee lost fruition of this light.
The good old father (for these wordes his pacience much did mone)
said: O how happie shouldst thou bee and blessed from aboue,
If thou wert blind as well as I, so that thou might not see
the sacred ritts of Bacchus band. For sure the time wil bee,
and that full shortly (as I gesse) that hither shall resort
another Bacchus Semelles sonne, whom if thou not support
with pomp and honor like a God, thy carcasse shalbe tattred,
and in a thousand places eke about the woods bee scattred.
And for too reede thee what they are that shall performe the deede,
It is thy mootther and thine Aunts that thus shall make thee bleede.
I know it shall so come too passe, for why thou shalt disdaine,
too honor Bacchus as a God: and then thou shalt with paine
feele how that blinded as I am I saw for thee too much.
As old Tiresias did pronounce these woordes and other such,
Echions sonne did trouble him. his wordes proue true in deede,
For as the Prophet did forespeake so fell it out with speede.
Anon this newfound Bacchus commes: the woods and fields rebound
with noise of shouts and howling out, and such confused sound.
The folke ronne flocking out by heapes men, maids & wiues toogither
the noblemen and rascal sort ran gadding also thither.

The

The Orgies of this vnknowne God full fondly too perfourme
the which when Penthey dyd perceyue he gan too rage and storme.
And sayd vnto them . o ye ympes of Mars his snake by kynde
what ayleth you: what fiend of hell dooth thus enrage your mynde
Hath tinkyng sownde of pottes & pannes: hath noyse of crooked horne:
Haue fond illusions suche a force: that them whom heretofore
No armyng swoorde: no bloody trump: no men in battell ray
coold cause too shrynke: now shepish shrickes of symple women fray:
And drunkē woodnesse wrought by wyne: & roughts of fylthy freaks:
and sounde of toying timpanes dauntes: & quite their courage breakes:
Shall I at you ye auncient men which from the towne of Tyre:
too bryng your household Goddes by Sea, in sauftie dyd aspyre:
And settled them within this place the which ye now doo yeeld
In bondage quite without all force and feightyng in the fyeld:
Or woonder at you yoonger sort approchyng vntoo mee
more nere in courage and in yeres: whom mete it were to see
With speare and not with thyrse in hand: with glittring helm on head,
And not with leaues: Now cal too mynd of whom yee al are bred,
And take the stoomackes of that Snake, which beyng one alone,
Right stoutly in his owne defence confounded many a one.
Ye for his harbrough and his spring his lyfe dyd nobly spend.
Doo you no more but take a hart your honour too defend.
Yee put too death right valeant knights. Your battel is with such
as are but meicocks in effect: and yet you doo so much
In conquering them, that by the deede the old renowne yee saue,
which from your fathers by discent this present time ye haue.
If fatall destinies doo forbid that Thebes long shall stand,
wold god that men with Canun shot might raze it out of hand.
Wold God the noyse of fire and swoord did in our hearing sound.
For than in this our wretchednesse there could no fault be found.
Then might wee sukly waile our case that all the world might see
Wes should not neede of sheading teares ashamed for too bee.
But now our towne is taken by a naked beardlesse boy,
who dooth not in the feats of armes nor horse nor armor joy.
But for too moyst his heare with mirrhe, and put on garlands gay,
and in soft purple silke and gold his bodie too aray.
But put too you your helping hand and strait without delay
I will compell him point by point his lewdnes too bewray,
Both in vsurping Joues high name in makyng him his sonne
and forging of these Ceremonies lately now begonne.
Hath King Atrisius hart inough this fondling for too hate:

That makes himselfe too bee a God: and for too shet the gate
of Argos at his comming there: and shall this rouer make
king Penthey and the noble towne of Thebe thus too quake?
Go quickly sirs (these words hee spake vntoo his seruaunts) go
and bring the captaine hither bound with speede. why stay ye so?
His graundsire Cadmus, Athamas and others of his kinne
Reproued him by gentle meanes but nothing could they winne.
The more intreatance that they made the fiercer was hee still:
the more his friends did go about too breake him of his will,
the more they did prouoke his wrath, and set his rage on fire:
they made him worse in that they sought too bridle his desire.
Soo haue I seene a brooke ere this; where nothing let the streame,
ronne smooth with litle noyse or none. but where as any beame
or cragged stones did let his course, and make him for too stay:
it went more fiersly from the stoppe with fomy wroth away.
Behold all bloody comme his men, and strait he them demaunded
where Bacchus was, and why they had not doone as hee cõmaunded.
Sir (answerd they) wee sawe him not, but this same fellow heere
a chiefe companion in hys traine and worker in this geere,
wee tooke by force: And therwithall presented too their Lord
a certaine man of Tirrhene land, his hands fast bound with cord,
whom they, frequenting Bacchus rites had found but late before.
A grim and cruell looke which ire did make too seeme more sore,
did Penthey cast vpon the man. And though hee scarsly stayd
from putting him too torments strait. O wretched man (hee said)
who by thy worthy death shalt bee a sample vntoo other,
declare too mee the names of thee, thy father, and thy moother.
And in what countrie thou wert borne, and what hath caused thee,
of these straunge rites and sacrifice, a follower for too bee.
He void of feare made aunswere thus. Acetes is my name:
Of parents but of lowe degree in Lidy land I came.
No ground for painfull Or too till, no sheepe too beare mee woolle
my father left mee: no nor horse, nor asse, nor cow, nor booll.
God wote hee was but poore himselfe, With line and baited hooke
the frisking fishes in the pooles vppon his reede hee tooke.
His hands did serue in stead of lands, his substance was his craft.
Now haue I made you true accompt of all that hee mee laft,
as well of riches as of trades, in which I was his heire
and successor. For when that death bereft him vse of aire,
saue water hee mee nothing left. It is the thing alone
which for my lawfull heritage I claime, and other none.

Soone

Soone after I (bycause that loth I was too ay abyde
in that poore state) did learne a ship by conning hand too guide.
And for too know the rainie signe, that highte th' Olenien Gote
which with her milke did nourish Ioue. And also I did note
the Pleiads and the Hiads moyst, and eke the siely plough
with all the dwellings of the winds that make the seas so rough.
And eke such hauens as are meete too harborough vessels in:
with euery starre and heauenly signe that guides too shipmen bin.
Now as by chaunce I late ago did toward Dilos sayle,
I came on coast of Scios Ile, and seeing day too faile,
tooke harborough there and went a lande. Assoone as that the night
was spent, and morning gan too peere with ruddie glaring light,
I rose and bad my companye freshwater fetch a boord.
And pointing them the way that led directly too the foord,
I went mee too a little hill, and viewed round about
too see what weather wee were like too haue ere setting out.
Which doone I cald my watermen and all my mates toogither,
and wild them all too go a boord my self first going thither.
Lo here wee are (Opheltes said) (he was the maisters mate)
and (as hee thought) a bootie found in desert fieles a late,
hee dragd a boy vppon his hand that for his beawtie sheene,
a mayden rather then a boy appeered for too beene.
This child as one forlaue with wine, and dreint with drousie sleepe
did reele as though hee scarsely could himself from falling keepe.
I markt his countnaunce, weede, and pace, no inkling could I see,
By which I might conjecture him a mortall wight too bee.
I thought, and too my fellowes said: what God I cannot tell,
But in this body that wee see some Godhead sure dooth dwell.
What God so euer that thou art, thy fauor too vs showe,
and in our labors vs assist, and pardon these also.
Pray for thy selfe and not for vs (quoth Dictis by and by).
a nymbler felowe for too clymbe vppon the mast on hie
and by the Cable downe too slide, there was not in our keele.
Swart Melanth patrone of the shippe did like his saying weele.
So also did Alcimedon: and so did Libis too,)
and blacke Epopeus eke whose charge it did belong vntoo)
too see the Rowers at their times their duties duly doo.)
And so did all the rest of them: so sore mens eyes are blynded
where couetousnes of filthie gaine is more than reason minded.
Well sirs (quoth I) but by your leaue yee shall not haue it so,
I will not suffer sacriledge within thys shippe too go.
For I haue heere the most too doo. And with that word I kept

vppon

Vppon the hatches all the reſt from entrance too haue kept.
The rankeſt ruffion of the rout that Lycab had too name,
(whoo for a murder being late driuen out of Tuſkane came
Too me for ſuccor) waxed wood, and with his ſturdy fyſt
Did giue me ſuch a chorliſh blowe bycauſe I dyd reſiſt,
That ouer boord he had me ſent, but that with much a doo
I caught the tackling in my hand and held me faſt thertoo.
The wicked varlettes had a ſport too ſee me handled ſo
Then Bacchus (for it Bacchus was) as though he had but tho,
Bene waked with their noyſe from ſleepe, and that his drowſie brayns
Diſcharged of the wyne, begonne too gather ſens agayne)
ſayd: what a dooe? what noyſe is this? how came I here I pray?
Sirs tell me whether you doo meane too carry me away.
Feare not my boy (the Patrone ſayd) no more but tell me where
Thou dooſt deſyre too go a lande, and wee will ſet the there.
To Naxus ward (quod Bacchus tho) ſet ſhippe vppon the foms.
there woold I haue harborough take, for Naxus is my home.
Lyke periurde kaytifs by the Sea and all the Goddes therof,
They falſly ſware it ſhould be ſo, and therewithall in ſkoffe
They bade me hoyſe vp ſayle and go. Vpon the righter hand
I caſt about too fetch the wynd, for ſo did Naxus ſtand.
What meanſt? art mad? Opheltes kryde, and therwithal begonne
a feare of looſyng of their pray through euery man too ronne.
The greater part with head and hand a ſigne did too me make,
and ſome did whiſper in myne eare the lefthand way too take.
I was amazd and ſaid take charge henceforth whoo wil for me:
For of your craft and wickednelle I will no further bee.
Then fell they to reuyling me, and all the rout gan grudge:
Of which Ethalion ſayd in ſcorne: by like in you ſir ſnudge
conſiſtes the ſaufgarde of vs all. and with that woord he takes
my roome, and leauyng Naxus quite too other countries makes.
The God then dalying with theis mates, as though he had at laſt
Begonne too ſmell their ſuttle craft, out of the forepecke caſt
His eye vppon the ſea: and than as though he ſeemde too weepe,
ſaid: ſyrs to bring me on this coaſt yee doo not promis keepe.
I ſee that this is not the land the which I did requeſt.
For what occaſion in this ſort deſerue I too bee drieſt?
What commendacion can you win, or praiſe therby receiue?
If men a Lad, if many one ye compaſſe too deceiue?
I wept and ſobbed al this whyle, the wicked villayns laught,
And rowed forth with might & mayne, as though they beene ſtraught.
Now euen by him (for ſure than he in all the world ſo wyde.

There

There is no God more neare at hand at euery time and tide.)
I sweare vntoo you that the things the which I shall declare,
like as they seeme incredible, euen so most true they are.
The ship stood still amid the sea as in a duskie docke.
They wondring at this miracle, and making but a mocke,
persist in beating with their ores, and on with all their sailes.
Too make their galey too remoue, no art nor labor failes.
But Iuie troubled so their ores that forth they could not rowe:
and both with beries and with leaues their sailes did ouergrow.
And hee himselfe with clustred grapes about his temples round,
did shake a tansling in his hand that round about was bound
with leaues of vines: and at his feete there seemed for too couch
of Tigers, Linx, and Panthers shapes most ougly for too touch.
I cannot tell you whether feare or woodnesse were the cause,
But euery person leapth by and from his labor drawes.
And there one Medon first of all began too waxen blacke,
and hauing lost his former shape did take a courbed backe.
What monster shall wee haue of thee (quoth Licab) and with that
This Licabs chappes did waxen wide, his noseth rils waxed flat,
his skin wart tough, and scales theron beegan anon too grow.
And Libis as hee went about the ores away too throw,
perceiued how his hands did shrinke and were beecome so short,
that now for finnes and not for hands he might them wel report.
Another as hee wold haue claspt his arme about the cord:
had nere an arme, and so beemaimd in body, ouer boord
hee leapeth downe among the waues, and forked is his tayle
as are the hornes of Phebes face when halfe her light doth fayle.
They leape about and sprincle vp much water on the shippe,
one while they swim aboue, and downe anon againe they slyppe.
They fetch their frisks as in a daunce, and wantonly they writhe
now heere now there among the waues their bodies baine and lithe.
And with their wide and hollow nose the water in they snuffe,
And by their noses out againe as fast they doo it puffe.
Of twentie persons (for our ship so many men did beare)
I only did remaine nigh straught and trembling still for feare.
The God could scars recomfort mee, and yet he said go too,
feare not, but saile too Dia ward. This will I gladly doo.
And so alsoone as I came there with right deuout intent,
his chapleyne I became. And thus his Orgies I frequent.
Thou makst a proceese verie longe (quoth Penthey) too thintent
That (choler being cold bytime) mine anger might relent.
But sirs (he spake it too his men) go take him by and by,

with cruell torments out of hand go cause him for too die.
Immediatly they led away Acetes out of sight,
and put him vnto a prison strong from which there was no flight.
But while the cruell instruments of death as sword and fire
were in preparing wherwithall t'accomplish Pentheys ire,
it is reported that the doores did of their owne accord
burst open and his cheins fall of. And yet this cruell Lord
persisteth fiercer than before, not bidding others go
but goes him self vnto the hil Cytheron, which as tho
too Bacchus being consecrate did ring of chaunted songs,
and other loud confused sounds of Bacchus drunken throngs.
And euen as when the bloodie trompe doth too the battell sound,
the lusty horse streight neying out bestirres him on the ground,
and taketh courage thervpon t'assayle his enmy proud:
Euen so when Penthey heard a farre the noyse and howling loud
that Bacchus frantike folke did make, it set his hart on fire,
and kindled fiercer than before the sparks of setled ire.

There is a goodly plaine about the middle of the hil,
Enuirond in with woods, where men may view the waye at will.
Here looking on these holy rites with leud prophaned eyes
king Pentheys mother first of al her sorowful sonne espies,
and like a Bedlem first of all shee doth vpon him runne,
and with her Iaueling furiously shee first doth wound her sonne.
Comme hither sisters comme shee cries here is that mightie boze,
here is the boze that stroyes our fields, him will I strike therfore.
Wherwith they fall vpon him all as though they had bene mad,
and clustring all vpon a heape fast after him they gad.
Hee quakes and shakes: his woords are now become meke & cold:
He now condemnes his owne default, and sayes hee was too bold.
And wounded as hee was he cries helpe aunt Autonoë,
now for Acteons blessed soule some mercy shew too mee.
Shee wist not who Acteon was, but rent without delaye
His right hand of: and Ino tare his toother hand away.
Too lift vntoo his mother tho the wretch had nere an arme:
but shewing her his maimed corse and wounds yet bleeding warme,
O mother see her sayes: with that Agaue howleth out:
and writhed with her necke awry, and shooke her heare about.
And holding from his bodie torne his head in bloody hands,
shee cries: O fellowes in this deede our noble conquest stands.
Noo sooner could the wind haue blowen the rotten leaues fro trees,
when winters frost hath bitten them, then did the hands of these

most

moſt wicked women Pentheſes limbes from one another teare.
The Thebanes beeyng now by this example brought in feare,
frequent this newfound ſacrifice, and with ſweete frankincence
God Bacchus altars lode with gifts in euery place doo ſence.

Finis tertij Libri.

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ling at the vveſt ende of Paules churche,
at the ſigne of the hedgehogge.

*Cum priuiligio ad Impri-
mendum ſolum.*

YEt woold not ſtowt Alcithoe Duke Mineus dawghter bow
The Orgies of this newfound God in conſcience too allow.
But ſtill ſhee ſtifly dooth denye that Bacchus is the Sonne
Of Ioue: and in this hereſie her ſuſters with her roonne.
The Prieſt had bydden holiday, and that as well the mayde
as myſtreſſe (for the tyme aſide all other buſyneſſe layde)
In buckſkynne cotes, with treſſes looſe, and garlondes on their beare,
Shoold in theyr handes the leuie ſpeares (ſurnamed Thyrſis) beare.
Foretelling them that if they did the Goddes commaundement breake,
Hee woold with ſore & greuous plagues his wrath vppon thē wreake.
The women ſtreyght bothe yonge and old doo thervntoo obey.
Theyr yarne, theyr baſkettes, and their flar vnſponne aſide they lay,
And burne too Bacchus frankincens. Whom ſolemlye they call
By all the names and tytles hyghe that may too hym befall.
As Bromius, and Lyæus eke, begegotten of the flame,
Twyce borne, the ſole and onely chylde that of twoo moothers came.
Unſhorne Thyoney, Niſeus, Lenæus, and the ſetter
of Vines, whoose pleaſant liquor makes all tables fare the better.
Nyctileús and th' Elelean fyre, Iacchus, Euan eke,
with diuers oother glorious names that throwgh the lande of Greke
Too thee O Liber woonted are too attributed bee.
Thy youthfull yeres can neuer waſte: there dwelleth ay in thee
A chyldhood tender, freſhe, & fayre: In heauen wee dooe thee ſee
Surmountynge euery other thynge in beawtie and in grace,
And when thou ſtandſt without thy hornes thou haſt a maydens face.
Too thee obeyeth all the Eaſt, as farre as Ganges goes,
whiche dooth the ſcorched lande of Inde with tawny folke encloſe.
Lycurgus with his twybyll ſharpe, and Penthey whoo of Pryde
Thy Godhead and thy myghty power rebellioufly denyde,
Thou ryght redowted didſt confounde: Thou intoo ſea didſt ſend
The Tyrrhene ſhipmen. Thou with bittes the ſturdy necks dooſt bend
of ſpotted Lynxes: Thy ronges of frowes and Satyres on thee tend,
And that olde bag that with a ſtaffe his ſtaggering lymbes dooth ſtay
Scars able on his Aſſe too ſytte for reelyng euery way.
Thou commeſt not in any place but that is heard the noyſe
Of gagling womens tatling toongues and ſhowting out of boyes.
With ſound of Timbrelles, Tabors, Pypes, & brazen pannes & pottes
Confuſedly among the rowt that in thyne Orgies trottes.
The Thebane women for thy grace and fauour humbly ſue,

And (as the Priest did bid) frequent thy rytes with reuerens due.
Alonly Mineus daughters bent of wilfulnesse, with wooryng
quite out of tyme too breake the feaste, are in their houses lurkyng:
And there doo fall too spynnyng yarne, or weauyng in the frame,
And kepe their maydens too their woork. Of which one pleasant dame
as shee with nymble hand did drawe her slender threed and fyne,
Sayd: while that others ydelly doo serue the God of wyne,
Let vs that serue a better sainct Minerua, find some talke
Too ease our labour whyle our handes about our profit walke.
And for too make the tyme seeme shorte, let eche of vs recite,
(as euery bodyes turne shall come) some tale that may delyght.
Her saying likte the rest so well that all consent therin,
And thervppon they pray that first the eldest woold beginne.
Shee had such store and choyce of tales shee wist not which too tell.
Shee doowted if shee might declare the fortune that befell
Too Dircetes of Babilon whom now with skaly hyde
In altred shape the Philistine beeleeueth too abyde
In watry pooles: Or rather how her daughter takyng winges
In shape of doue on toppes of towres in age now sadly synges:
Or how a certayne water Nymphe by witchcraft and by charmes
conuerted intoo fysshes domb, of yoongmen many swarmes,
Untill that of the selfe same sauce herselfe did tast at last:
Or how the tree that vsde too beare frute whyte in ages past,
Dooth now beare frute in maner blacke, by sprincling vp of blood.
This tale (bycause it was not stale nor common) semed good,
Too her too tell; and thervppon shes in thys wyse beegonne
Her busy hand styll drawyng out the flaren threed shee sponne.

Within the town (of whose huge walles so mõstruous bigh & thick
The fame is geuen Semyramis for makyng them of bricke)
Dwelt hard toogether twoo yoong folke in howses ioynd so nere
that vnder all one roof well nye both twayne conueyed were.
The name of him was Pyramus and Thisbee cald was shee.
So fayre a man in all the East was none alyue as hee,
Nor nere a woman mayd nor wyfe in beawtye like too her.
This neyghbrod bred acquaintans first, this neyghbrod first did styrre
the secret sparkes, this neyghbrod first an entrance in did showe,
For loue too come too that too which it afterward did growe.
And if that ryght had taken place they had beene man and wyfe,
But styll their parentes went about too let whiche (for their lyfe)
they coould not let. For both their hartes with equall flame did burne.
No man was prsuye too their thoughts. And for too serue their turns
In stead of talke they vsed signes, the closlyer they supprest

The fyre

The fyre of loue, the fiercer ſtyll it raged in their breſt.
The wall that parted howſe from howſe had ryuen therin a crany
Which chronke at making of the wall. this fault not markt of any
Of many hundred yeares beefore, (what dooth not loue eſpye.)
Theſe louers firſt of all found out, and made away wherby
too talke toogether ſecretly, and through the ſame dyd go
their louyng whiſpringes very lyght and ſafelye too and fro.
Now as a toneſyde Pyramus and Thiſbee on the toother
Stood often drawing one of them the pleaſant breath from oother,
O thou enuious wall (they ſayd) why letſt thou louers thus?
What matter were it if that thou permitted both of vs
In armes eche oother too embrace? Or if thou thinke that this
Were ouermuch, yet mightſt thou at leaſt make roome too kyſſe.
And yet thou ſhalt not find vs chorles: wee thinke our ſelues in dette
For this same piece of curteſye, in vowching ſauſe too ſette
our ſayings too our frendly eares thus freely come and go.
Thus hauing where they ſtood in vayne complayned of their wo,
when nyght drewe nere, they bade adiew and eche gaue kiſſes ſweete
Untoo the parget on their ſyde, the which did neuer meete.
Next morning with her cherefull lyght had dryuen the ſtarres aſyde
and Phebus with his burning beames the dealwy gralle had dryde.
Theſe louers at their wonted place by foreappoyntment met.
Where after much complaint and mone they couenaunted too get
away from ſuch as watched them, and in the euening late
too ſteale out of their fathers howſe and eke the City gate.
And too thentent that in the fieldes they ſtrayed not vp and downe
they did agree at Ninus Tumb too meete without the towne,
and tarrye vnderneath a tree that by the ſame did growe
which was a faire high mulberrye with frute as white as ſnowe,
Hard by a coole and trickling ſpring. This bargaine pleaſd them both
And ſo daylyght (which too their thoughts away but ſlowly goth)
Did in the Ocean fall too reſt, and nyght from thens dooth ryſe.
Aſſoone as darkneſſe ones was come, ſtrayt Thiſbee did deuiſe
A ſhift too wynd her out of doores, that none that were within
Perceyued her: And muffling her with clothes about her chynne,
that no man might diſcerne her face, too Ninus tumb ſhee came
Untoo the tree, and ſate her downe there vnderneath the ſame.
Loue made her bold. But see the chaunce, there commes beeſmerd with
About the chappes a Lyoneſſe all foming from the wood (blood
From ſlaughter lately made of kyne too ſtaunche her bloody thurſt
With water of the foreſaide ſpring. Whom Thiſbee ſpying furſt
A farre by moonelyght, therevppon with fearefull ſteppes gan flye,

And in a darke and yrkesome caue dyd hyde her selfe therby
And as shee fled away for haste shee let her mantle fall
The whiche for feare shee left behynde not looking backe at all.
Now when the cruell Lyonesse her thurst had stanched well,
In going too the wood shee founde the slender weede that fel
From Thisbee, which with bloodie teethe in pieces shee did tear
The night was somewhat further spent ere Pyramus came there
whoo seeing in the suttle sande the prynt of Lyons Pawe,
wart pale for feare. But when also the bloodie cloke he sawe,
All rent and torne, one nyght (hee sayde) shall louers twoo confounde,
Of whiche long lyfe deserued shee of all that lyue on ground.
My sowle deserues of this mischaunce the peryll for too beare.
I wretch haue beene the death of thee, whiche too this place of feare
Dyd cause thee in the nyght too come, aud came not here beefore.
My wicked lymbes and wretched guttes with cruell teethe therfore
Deuour ye o ye Lyons all that in this rocke dooe dwell.
But cowardes vse too wysh for death. The slender weede that fell
from Thisbee vp hee takes, and streight dooth beare it too the tree,
whiche was appointed erst the place of meeting for too bee.
And when hee had beewept and kyst the garment whiche hee knew,
Receiue thou my blood too (quoth hee). and therwithall hee drew
His swoorde, the whiche among his guttes hee thrust, and by and by)
Dyd drawe it from the bleedyng wownd beegynninge for too die,)
And cast hym selfe vppon his backe. the blood dyd spyn on hye)
as when a conduite pipe is crackt, the water bursting out
dooth shoote it selfe a great way of and perce the ayre about.
The leaues that were vppon the tree beesprincled with his blood
were died blacke. The roote also beestayned as it stoode,
A deepe darke purple colour straight vppon the berries cast.)
Anon scars rydded of her feare with whiche shee was agast.)
For dowt of disappointing him comes Thisbee forth in hast,)
And for her louer lookes about, reioycing for too tell
How hardly shee had skapt that nyght the daunger that beefell.
And as shee knew right well the place and fashion of the tree
(as whiche shee saw so late beefore) :euen so when shee dyd see
The colour of the berries turnd, shee was vncertayne whither
It were the tree at whiche they both agreed too meete toogether.
While in this doutfull stownd shee stoode, shee cast her eye asyde,
and there beeweltred in his blood her louer shee espyed
Lye sprawling with his dying lymbes: at which shee started backe,
and looked pale as any box, a shuddryng throughe her stracke,

Euen

Euen lyke the sea whiche sodeinely with whissing noyse dooth moue,)
When with a lyttle blast of winde it is but towcht aboue.)
But when approching nearer him shee knewe it was her loue,)
Shee beate her brest, shee shricked out, shee tare her golden heares,
And taking him beetweene her armes did wash his woūds with teares.
Shee meynt her weeping with his blood, and kissing all his face
(Which now beecame as colde as yse,) shee cryde in wofull case
Alas what chaunce my Pyramus hath parted thee and mee?)
Make aunswere O my Pyramus: It is thy Thisb, euen shee)
Whom thou doost loue most hartely that speaketh vntoo thee.)
Giue eare and rayse thy heauy head. Hee hearyng Thisbes name,
Lyft vp hys dying eyes and hauing seene her closde the same.
But when shee knew her mantle there and sawe his skabberd lye
Without the swoord: Vnhappye man thy loue hath made thee dye:
Thy loue (shee sayd) hath made thee slea thy self. This hand of myne
Is strong ynough too doo the lyke. My loue no lesse than thyne
Shall geue me force too woorke my wound. I will persue the dead.
And wretched woman as I am, it shall of mee bee sed
That like as of thy death I was the only cause and blame,
So am I thy companion eke and partner in the same.
For death which onely could alas a sunder part vs twayne,
Shall neuer so disseuer vs, but wee will meete agayne.
And you the Parentes of vs both, most wretched folke alyue
Let this request that I shall make in both our names bylyue
Entreate you too permit that wee whom chaste and stedfast loue
And whom euen death hath ioynd in one, may as it dooth beehoue
In one graue bee toogether laid. And thou vnhappy tree
Which shrowdest now the Corse of one, and shalt anon through mee
Shrowd twoo, of this same slaughter hold the syker sygnes for ay)
Blacke bee the colour of thy frute and moornynglike alway,)
Such as the murder of vs twayne may euermore beewray.)
This sayd, shee tooke the swoord yet warme with slaughter of her loue
And setting it beeneath her brest, did too her hart it shoue.
Her prayer with the Goddes and with their Parentes tooke effect.
For when the frute is throughly rype, the berrye is bespect
With colour tending too a blacke. And that which after fyre
Remayned, rested in one Tumb as Thisbee did desyre.

This tale thus told a little space of pawsing was beetwist,
And then beegan Leucothoe thus, her susters beeing whist.

This Sonne that with his streaming lyght all woorldly thinges doth
was tane in loue. of Phebus loues now list and you shall heere. (cheere
It is reported that thys God did fyrst of all espye,

(For euery thing in heauen and earth is open too hys eye)
How Uenus with the warlike Mars aduoutry did commit.
It grieued him too see the fact and so discouered it,
Hee shewd her husband Iunos sonne thaduoutry and the place
In which this pryuy skape was doone. Whos was in such a case
that hart and hand and all did fayle in woorking for a space.
Anon he featly fordgd a net of wyre so fyne and slyght,
that neyther knot nor nooze therin apparant was too syght.
This piece of woorke was much more fyne than any handwarpe doth
or that wherby the spyder hanges in slyding from the roof.
And furthermore the suttleneſſe and slyght therof was such,
It followd euery lyttle pull and closde with euery towche,
and so hee set it handsomlye about the haunted cowche.
Now when that Uenus and her mate were met in bed toogether
Her husband by his newefound snare beefore conueyed thither
Did snarle them both toogether fast in myddes of all their play
And setting ope the Iuory doores cald all the Goddes streight way,
too see them: they wyth shame ynowgh fast lockt toogither lay.
A certaine God among the reſt disposed for too sport
Did wish that hee himselfe also were shamed in that sort.
the resdew lawght and so in heauen there was no talke awhyle,
Bnt of this Pageant how the Smyth the louers did beegyle.
Dame Uenus highly stomacking this greate displeasure, thought
too bee reuenged on the part by whom the spyght was wrought.
And lyke as hee her secret loues and meetings had beewrayd.
So thee with wound of raging loue his guerdon too him payd.
What now auayles (Hyperions sonne) thy forme and beawty bryght:
What now auayle thy glistring eyes with cleere and perting syght:
For thou that with thy gleames art wont al countreyes for too burne,
art burnt thy selfe with other gleames that serue not for thy turne.
And thou that oughtst thy cheerefull looke on al thinges for too show
Alonly on Leucothoë dooſt now the same bestowe.
thou fastnest on that mayd alone the eyes that thou dooſt owe
too all the world. Somtyme more rathe thou ryſest in the East,
Sometyme againe thou makſte it late beefore thou fall too reſt.
And for desyre too looke on her, thou often dooſt prolong
Our wynter nyghtes. And in thy lyght thou faylest eke among.
The fancye of thy faultie mynd infects thy feeble syght,
And so thou makſte mens hartes afrayd by dauntyng of thy lyght.
thou lookte not pale bycause the globe of Phebee is betweene
the earth and thee: but loue doth cause this colour too bee seene.
thou louest this Leucothoë so farre aboue all other,

that

that neyther now for Clymené, for Rhodos, nor the moother
of Circé, nor for Clytië (who at that present tyde
Reiected from thy company did for thy loue abyd
Most grieuous torments in her hart) thou seemest for too care.
Thou myndest her so much that all the rest forgotten are.
Her moother was Eurynomé of all the fragrant clyme
of Arabie esteemde the flower of bewtie in her tyme.
But when her daughter came too age the daughter past the moother
As farre in beautie, as before the moother past all oother.
Her father was king Orchamus and ruilde the publike weale,
Of Persye, counted by descent the vii. from auncient Bele.
Farre vnderneathe the westerne clyme of Hesperus doo roonne
the pastures of the fyrie steedes that drawe the golden Sonne.
there are they fed with ambrosie in stead of grasse all night
which dooth refresh their wearye lymbes and keepeth them in plight.
too beare their daylye labour out: now whyle the steedes there take
their heauenly food and night by turne his tymely coorse dooth make,
The God disguysed in the shape of Quene Eurynomee
Dooth preace within the chamberdoore of fayre Leucothoë
His Louer whom amyd. vii. maydes he found by candlelyght
Yet spinning on her little Rocke, and went me too her right.
And kissyng her as moothers vse too kisse their daughters deere,
Sayd maydes withdrawe your selues a whyle & sit not listnyng heere.
I haue a secret thing too talke. The maydes anoyd echone.
The God than beeing with his loue in chamber all alone,
Sayd: I am hee that meetes the yere, that all thinges doo behold.
By whom the Earth dooth all things see, the Eye of all the worlde.
Trust mee I am in loue with thee. The Ladye was so nypt
with sodaine feare that from her hands bothe rocke and spindle slypt
Her feare became her wondrous well. he made no mo delayes,
But turned too his proper shape and tooke his glystring rayes.
The Damsell beeing soore abasht at this so straunge a syght,
And ouercomme with sodaine feare to see the God so bright,
Dyd make no outkrye nor no noyse, but held her paciens still,
And suffred him by forced power his pleasure to fulfill.
Hereat did Clytie sore repyne. For shee beeyond all measure
Was than enamourd of the Sonne: & stoong with this displeasure
That he anoother Leman had, for verye spyght and Ire
shee playes the blab, and dooth diffame Leucothoë too her Syre.
He cruell and vnmercifull would no excuse accept,
But holdyng vp her handes too heauen when tenderly shee wept.
And sayd it was the Sonne that did the deede against her will:
Yet lyke a sauage beast full bent his daughter for to spill,

Hee put her deepe in delued grounde, and on her bodye layd
A huge greate heape of heaupe sande. The sonne full yll apayd,
Did wyth his beames disperse the sande and made an open way
too bryng thy buryed face too lyght, but such a weight there lay
Vppon thee, that thou cooldst not rayse thyne hande aloft againe,
And so a coarse both voyd of blood and lyfe thou didst remayne.
There neuer chaunst syns Phaetons fyre a thinge that grieud so sore
the ruler of the winged steedes as this dyd. And therfore
hee did attempt if by the foarse and vertue of his ray
Hee myght ageyne too lyuely heate her frozen lymbes conuey.
But forasmuch as desteny so great attempts denyes,
Hee sprincles both the coarce it selfe & place wherein it lyes
With fragrant Nectar. And therwith beewayling much his chaunce
Said: yet aboue the starrye sky thou shalt thy selfe aduannce.
Anon the body in thys heauenly lyquor steeped well
Did melt, and moysted all the earth with sweete and pleasaunt smell.
And by and by first takyng roote amonge the cloddes within)
By little and by little dyd wyth growing toppe bergin)
A pretye spirke of Frankincens aboue the Tumb too wyn.)
Although that Clytye myght excuse her sorrow by her loue
And seeme that so too play the blab her sorrow dyd her moue,
yet woold the Authour of the lyght resort too her no more
But dyd wytholde the pleasaunt sportes of Venus vsoe beefore.
The Nymphe not able of herselfe the frantick fume too stay
With restlesse care and pensiuencsse did pyne her selfe away.
Bareheaded on the bare colde ground wyth staryng heare vnkempt
Shee sate abrode both nyght and day: and cleerely did exempt
Her selfe by space of thrice three dayes from sustnance and repast
Saue onely deiwe and saue her teares with which shee brake her fast.
And in that while shee neuer rose but stared on the Sonne
And euer turnde her face too his as hee his coorse dyd ronne.
Her lymbes stacke fast within the ground, and all her vpper part
Did too a pale ashcolord herbe cleane voyde of blood conuert.
The flowre whereof part red part whyght beeshadowed wyth a bleiwe
most like a Violet in the shape her countenaunce ouergrewe.
And nowe (though fastned with a roote) shee turnes her too the Sunne
And keepes (in shape of herb) the loue with which shee first beegonne.
Shee made an end: and at her tale all wondred: some denyde
Her saying too bee possible: and other some replyde
That such as are in deede true Goddes may all thinges worke at wyl:
But Bacchus is not any such. This arguing ones made still.
Too tell her tale as others had Alcithoes turne was coome.

Whoo

Whoo with her shettle shooting through her web within the loome,
Sayd: Of the shepeherd Daplynis loue of Ida whom ere whyle
A iealoze Nymph (bycause he did with Lemans her begyle)
Foz anger turned too a stone (such furie loue dooth fynd:)
I wil not speake: it is to knowe: ne yet I doo intend
Too tel how Scython variably digressing from his kynd,
was somtyme woman, somtyme man, as lyked best his mind.
And Celmus also will I passe, who foz because he clyong
Moste faithfully too Jupiter when Jupiter was yoong,
Is now becomme an Adamant. So will I passe this bower,
Too shewe you howe the Curets were engendzed of a shoiver:
Oz how that Crocus and his loue faire Smylar turned were
Too little flowzes. with pleasant newes your mindes now wil I chere.
Lerne why the fountaine Salmacis diffamed is of yoze,
why with his waters ouerstrong it weakeneth men so soze,
that whooso bathes him there commes thens a perfect man no moze.
The operation of this well is knowne too euery wyght.
But fewe can tell the cause therof, the which I will recite.
The waternymphes did nource a sonne of Mercuries in Ide
Begot on Uenus, in whoose face such beautie did abyde,
As well therin his father bothe and moother myght bee knowne;
Of whom he also tooke his name. Alloone as he was growne
Too fifteene yeeres of age, he left the countrie where he dwelt
And Ida that had fostred him. The pleasure that he felt
too trauell Countries, and too see straunge riuers with the state
Of fozreine landes, all peinfulnesse of trauell did abate.
He traueld through the lande of Lycie too Carie that dooth bounde
Nert vnto Lycia. There be saw a Poole which too the gronnde
was chrystall cleere. No fenny sedge, no barreine recke, no reede
Noz rush with prickyng point was there, noz other moozish weede.
The water was so pure and sheere a man might well haue seene
and nombzed all the grauell stones that in the bottom beene.
The vtmost bozders from the brym enuirond were with clowzes
Beeclad with herbes ay fresh and greene & pleasant smelling flowzes.
A Nymph did haunt this goodly Poole: but such a nymph as neyther
Too hunt: too ronne, noz yet to shoote, had any kynd of pleasure.
Of al: the waterfayzies shee alonly was vnknowne
Too swift Diana. As the brute of fame abzode hath blowen,
Her susters oftentymes wold say: take lightsome dart oz bowe,
And in some peinfull exercise thyne Idle tyme bestowe.
But Neuer could they her perswade too ronne too shoote oz hunt,
Oz any other exercise as Phebes knightes are woont.

Somtime her faire welfourmed limbes shee bathyth in her spring:
Somtime shee downe her golden heare with boxen comb dooth bring.
And at the water as a glasse shee taketh counsell ay
how euery thing becommeth her. Erewhile in fine aray
on soft sweete herbes or soft greene leaues her self shee nicely layes:
Erewhile againe a gathering flowres from place to place shee strayes
and (as it chaunst) the self same time shee was a sorting gayes
too make a posie, when shee first the youngman did espie,
and in beholding him desird too haue his companie.
But though shee thought shee stood on thornes vntil shee went to him:
Yet went shee not before shee had bedect her neat and trim,
and pride and peerd vpon her clothes that nothing sat awrie.
and framd her countnaunce as might seeme most amrous to the eye.
Which doone shee thus beegan: O child most worthie for to bee
Esteemd and taken for a god, if (as thou seemst too mee)
Thou bee a God, too Cupids name thy beawtie dooth agree.
Or if thou bee a mortall wight, right happie folke are they,
by whom thou camst into this world. right happy is (I say)
thy moother and thy fuster too (if any bee): good happe
that woman had that was thy nource and gaue thy mouth her pappe.
But farre aboue all other, farre more blist then these is shee
whom thou vouchsafest for thy wife and bedfollowe too bee.
Now if thou haue alreadie one, let mee by steith obtaine
that which shall pleasure both of vs. Or if thou doo remaine
a maiden free from wedlocke bond, let mee than bee thy spouse,
and let vs in the bridely bed our selues together rouse.
This sed the Nimph did hold her peace, and therwithall the boy
wart red: hee wist not what loue was: and sure it was a ioy
Too see it how exceding well his blushing him became.
for in his face the colour fresh appeared like the same
that is in apples which doo hang vpon the sonnye side:
or Iuorie shadowed with a red: or such as is espide
of white and scarlet colours mixt appearing in the Moone
when folke in vaine with sounding brasse wold ease vnto her doone.
When at the last the Nimph desird most instantly but this,
as too his fuster brotherly too gene her there a kisse,
and therwithall was clasping him about the Iuorie necke:
Leaue of (quoth he) or I am gone and leaue thee at a becke
with all thy tricks. Then Salmacis beegan too bee afrayd,
and too your pleasure leaue I free this place my friend shee said.
with that shee turnes her backe as though shee wold haue gone her way:
But euermore shee looketh backe, and (closely as she may)

shee

shee hides her in a bushie queach, where kneeling on her knee
shee alwayes hath her eye on him. Ye as a child and free,
And thinking not that any wight had watched what bee did,
Romes vp and downe the pleasaunt mede: and by and by amid
the flattring waues bee dippes his feete, no more but first the sole
and too the ancles afterward both feete bee plungeth whole.
And for to make the matter short, bee tooke so great delyght
in coolenes of the pleasant spring, that streight bee stripped quight
his garmentes from his tender skinne. When Salmacis behild
his naked beawtie, such strong panges so ardently her hild,
that vtterly shee was astrawght. And euen as Phebus beeames
against a mirrour pure and cleere rebound with broken gleames:
Euen so her eyes did sparcle fire. Scars could shee tarience make:
scars could shee any time delay her pleasure for too take:
shee would haue ronne, and in her armes embraced him streightway:
shee was so farre beside her selfe, that scarsly could shee stay.
Yee clapping with his hollow handes against his naked sides,
into the water lithe and bayne with armes displayed glides.
and rowing with his hands and legs swimmes in the water cleere:
through which his body faire and white dooth glistringly appeere,
as if a man an yuorie ymage or a Lillie white
should ouerlaye or close with glasse that were most pure and bright.
The prise is won (cride Salmacis aloud) bee is mine owne.
And therwithall in all post hast shee hauing lightly throwne
Her garments of, flew too the poole and cast her thereintoo
and caught him fast betweene her armes, for ought that he could doo:
yea maugre all his wrestling and his struggling too and fro,
Shee held him still, and kissed him a hundred times and mo.
and wild hee nild hee with her hands shee towcht his naked brest:
and now on this side now on that (for all hes did resist
and striue too wrest him from her gripes) shee cloong vntoo him fast:
and wound about him like a snake which snatched vp in hast,
and being by the prince of birdes borne lightly vp aloft,
dooth writh herselfe about his necke and griping talants oft:
and cast her taile about his wings displaied in the wind:
Or like as Iuie ronnes on trees about the vtter rind:
Or as the Crabfish hauing caught his enmy in the seas,
dooth claspe him in on euery side with all his crooked cleas.
But Atlas nephew still persistes, and vtterly denyes
The Nymph too haue her hoped spoyt: shee vrges him likewise.
And pressing him with all her weight, fast cleauing too him still,
striue, struggle, wrest and writh (shee sayd) thou froward boy thy fill.

Doo what thou canst thou shalt not scape. yee Goddes of heauen agree
that this same wilfull boy and I may neuer parted bee.
The Goddes were pliant too her boone. The bodies of them twayne
were mixt and toyned bothe in one: Too bothe them did remayne
One countnaunce: like as if a man shold in one barke behold
twoo twigges bothe growyng intoo one and still togither hold.
Euen so when through her huggyng and her grasping of the toother
the members of them mingled were and fastened bothe toogither,
They were not any lenger twoo: but (as it were) a toy
Of dooble shape. Nee could not say it was a perfect boy,
Nor perfect wench: it seemed bothe and none of bothe too beene.
Now when Hermaphroditus sawe how in the water sheene
too which he entred in a man, his limbes were weakened so
that out fro thens but half a man he was compeld too go,
He lifted vp his handes and sayd (but not with manly reere)
O noble father Mercurie and Venus moother deere.
This one petició graūt your son which booth your names doth beare,
that whoso commes within this well may so be weakened there,
that of a man but half a man he may fro thens retyre.
Bothe parentes moued with the chaunce did stablish this desyre
the which their dooble shaped sonne had made: and there vppon
Infected with an vnknowne strength the sacred spring anon.

Their tales did end and Pineus daughters still their buisnesse plye
In spight of Bacchus whoose vygh feast they breake contẽptuously.
When on the sodaine (seyng noght) they heard about them round
of rubbish timbrelles perfectly a hoarce and iarring sownd.
with shraming shalmes and Iyngling bells. and furthermore they felt
A cent of Saffron and of myrrhe that verie whotly smelt.
And (which a man woold ill beeleeue) the web they had beegonne
Immediatly wart fresh and greene, the liar the which they sponne
Did florish full of Iuie leaues. And part therof vpd ronne
abrode in Vines. The threede it selfe in braunches foorth vpd springyng.
yong burgeons full of clustred grapes their Distaues foorth did bring.
And as the web they wrought was dyde a deepe darke purple hew,
Euen so vppon the painted grapes the selfsame colour grew.
The day was spent, and now was cõme the tyme which neither night
Nor day, but euen the bound of bothe a man may terme of right.
The house at sodaine seemd too shake, and all about to shyne
with burnyng lampes, and glittring fyres too flash beefore their eyen,
And lykenesses of ougly beastes with gastfull noyses yell.
For feare wherof in smoky holes the fusters were compeld
Too hyde their heades one heete and there another, for to shonne

The glistring lyght. And whyle they thus in corners blyndly ronne,
Vppon their little pretie lymbes a fyne crisp filme there goes
and slender fynnes in stead of handes their shortned armes enclose.
But how they lost their former shape of certeintie too knowe
the darknesse would not suffer them. No feathers on them growe,
And yet with sheere and velume wynges they hoouer from the grounde
and when they go about too speake they make but little sounde.
Accordyng as their bodies giue, beewayling their despight
By chirpyng shirlly too themselues. In houses they delyght
and not in woodes: detestyng day they flytter towardes night:
Where through they of the cuelyng late in Latin take their name,
And wee in Englishe language Backes or Reeremeece call the same.
Then Bacchus name was reuerenced through al the Theban coast,
And Ino of her Nephewes power made euerywhere great boast.
Of Cadmus daughters shee alone no sorrowes tasted had
Saue only that her systers happes perchaunce had made her sad.
Now Juno notynge how shee wart both proud and full of skorne,
As well by reason of the sonnes and daughters shee had borne,
as also that shee was aduaunst by mariage in that towne
to Athamas kyng Aeolus sonne a prince of greate renoune,
But chiefly that her sisters sonne whoo nourced was by hyr
was then exalted for a God: bregan therat too fyre,
And freating at it in herself said: coold this harlottes burd
transforme the Lydian watermen, and drowne thee in the foord:
And make the moother teare the guttes in peeces of her sonne:
and Minens all three daughters clad with winges, because they spōne
whyles others howling vp and downe like franticke folke did ronne:
And can I Juno nothing els haue sundrie woes bewayle:
Is that sufficient: can my power no more than so anayle:
He teaches me what way too woorke. A man may take (I see)
Example at his enmies hand the wyser for too bee.
He shewes ynough and ouermuch the force of furious wrath
By Penthepes death: why should not Ine bee taught too tread ẏ path
the which her sisters hertoofore and kinred troden hath:
There is a steepe and trksome way obscure with shadowe fell
Of balefull yewgh, al sad and still, that leadeth downe too hell.
The foggie Styx dooth breathe vp mistes: & doune this way doo waue
the ghostes of persones lately dead and burted in the graue.
Continuall cold and gastly feare possesse this queachie plot
on eyther syde: the sely Ghost new parted knoweth not
the way that dooth directly leade him too the Stygian Citie
Or where blacke Pluto keepes his court that neuer sheweth pitie.

Athamas

A thousand wayes, a thousand gates that alwayes open stand,
this Citye hath: and as the Sea the streames of all the lande
Dooth swallow in his gredye gulf, and yet is neuer full:
Euen so that place deuoureth styll and hydeth in his gull
The soules and ghostes of all the world: and though that nere so many
Come thither, yet the place is voyd as if there were not any.
The ghostes without flesh, blood, or bones, there wander too and fro.
Of which some haunt the iudgment place: and other cõme and go
Too Plutos court: and sõme frequent the former trades and artes
the which they vsed in their lyfe: and some abyde the smartes
and tormentes for their wickednesse and other ill desertes.

So cruell hate and spightfull wrath did boyle in Junos brest,
That in the high and noble court of heauen shee coold not rest:
But that shee needes must hither come: whose feete no sooner toucth
The threshold, but it gan too quake. And Cerberus erst coucht
start sternly vp with three fell heades which barked all toogither.
Shee cald the daughters of the nyght the cruell furies thither:
They sate a kembing foule blacke snakes from of their fylthy heare
before the doongeon doore, the place where keytiues ponnisht were,
The which was made of Adamant. when in the darke in part
They knewe Quene Juno, by and by vppon their feete they start.
There Titius stretched out (at least) nine acres full in length,
Did with his bowelles feede a Grype that tare them out by strengrh.
The water fled from Tantalus that toucht his neather lippe,
and Apples hanging ouer him did euer from him slyppe.
There also labored Sisiphus that draue agaiust the hill
A rolling stone that from the toppe came tombling downeward still.
Ixion on his restlesse whele too which his limbes were bounde
Did flye and follow bothe at ones in turnyng euer round.
And Danaus daughters forbycause they did their cousins kill,
Drew water into ronnyng tubbes which euermore did spill.

Whẽ Juno with a louring looke had viewed them all throughout,
And on Ixion specially before the other rowt,
Shee turnes from him too Sysiphus, and with an angrye cheere
sayes: wherfore sholld this man endure continuall penaunce here?
And Athamas his brother reigne in welth and pleasure free?
Whoo through his pryde hath ay disdaind my husband Joue and me?
And therewithall shee poored out thoccasion of her hate,
And why shee came, & what shee woold. She woold that Cadmus state
shoold with the ruine of his house bee brought too swift decay.
And that too miscief Athamas the fiendes shoold force some way.
She byddes, shee prayes, shee promises, and all is with a breth.

And

And moues the furies earnestly: and as these thinge shee seth,
the hatefull hag Tisiphone with hory ruffled heare,
Remouing from her face the snakes that loosely dangled there,
sayd thus: Madame there is no neede longe circumstance too make.
Suppose your will alreadie doone. This lothsome place forsake,
And too the wholsome aire of heauen your self againe retire.
Queene Iuno went right glad away with graunt of her desyre.
And as shee woold haue entred heauen, the ladie Iris came
and purged her with streamyng droppes. Anon vppon the same
the furious fyend Tisiphone dooth clothe her out of hand
in garment streamyng gory blood, and taketh in her hand
a burning cresset steepte in blood, and girdeth her about
with wreathed snakes and so goes forth. And at her goyng out,
Feare, terror, grief, and pensiuenesse for company shee tooke,
And also madnesse with his slaught, and gastly staryng looke.
Within the house of Athamas no sooner foote shee set,
But that the postes began too quake & doores looke blacke as Jet.
The sonne withdrew him, Athamas and eke his wyfe were cast
With oughly sightes in such a feare, that out of doores agast
they woold haue fled. There stood the fiend and stopt their passage out,
and splaying forth her filthie armes beknit with snakes about,
Did tosse and waue her hatefull head. The swarme of scaled snakes
Did make an irksome noyse too here as she her tresses shakes.
About her shoolders some did craule: some trayling downe her brest
did hisse and spit out poison greene, and spirt with toonges infest.
Then frõ amyd her heare twoo snakes with venymd hand she drew
Of which shee one at Athamas and one at Ino threw.
The snakes did crall about their breastes, inspiryng in their hart
Most grieuous motions of the mynd: the bodye had no smart
Of any wound: it was the mind that felt the cruell stynges.
A poyson made in syrupwyse, shee also with her bringes.
The fylthie fame of Cerberus, the caskyng of the Snake
Echidna, bred among the fennes about the Stigian Lake:
Desyre of gaddyng forthe abrode: forgetfulnesse of mynde:
Delyght in mischief: woodnesse: teares: and purpose whole enclynd:
Too cruell murder: all the which shee did toogither grynd:
and myngling them with newshed blood had boyled them in brasse,
and stirde them with a hemblocke stalke. Now whyle that Athamas
And Ino stood and quakte for feare, this poyson ranke and fell
shee turned intoo bothe their brestes and made their hartes too swell.
Then whiskyng often round about her head her balefull brand,
shee made it soone by gatheryng wynd too kyndle in her hand.

Thus

Thus as it were in triumphwyse accomplishing her heft,
too Duskie Plutos emptie Realme shee gettes her home to reft,
and putteth of the snarled snakes that girded in her brest.

Immediatly kyng Aeolus sonne stark mad comes krying out,
through all the court what meane ye syrs: why goo yee not about
Too pitch our toyles within this chache. I sawe euen now here ran
a Lyon with her twoo yoong whelpes. And therewithall he gan
too chace his wyfe as if in deede shee had a Lyon beene
and lyke a bedlem boystously he snatcheth from betweene
the moothers armes his little babe Learchus smyling on him
And reachyng forthe his preatie armes e sloong him fiercely from him
A twyce or thrice as from a slyng: and dasht his tender head
against a hard and rugged stone vntyll hee sawe him dead.
The wretched moother (whither grief did mooue her theruntoo
Or that the poyson spred within did force her so too doo)
Yould oute and frantikly with scattred heare about her eares
And with her little Melicert whom hastely shee beares
In naked armes shee kryeth out hoe Bacchus. At the name
Of Bacchus Juno gan too laugh and skornyng sayd in game,
This guerden lo thy fosterchyld requiteth for the same.
There hanges a rocke aboue the Sea the foote wherof is eate
So hollow with the saltish waues which on the same doo beate.
That like a house it keepeth of the moysting showers of rayne
The toppe is rough and shooteth his kroont amyddes the open mayne.
Dame Juno (madnesse made her strong) did clymb this cliffe anon
And headlong downe (without regarde of hurt that hoong theron)
Did throwe her burden and herself. the water where shee dasht
In sprincling vpward glistred red. But Glenus sore abasht
At this her neeces great mischaunce without offence or fault,
Her vncle gently thus bespake. O ruler of the hault
and swellyng Seas, o noble Neptune whoose dominion large
extendeth too the Heauen, wherof the mighty Joue hath charge,
The thing is great for which I sew. But shewe thou for my sake
Some mercie on my wretched friendes whom in thyne endlesse lake
thou seest tossed too and fro. Admit thou them among
thy Goddes. Of right euen heere too mee some fauour dooth belong.
At leastwyse if amyd the Sea engendred erst I were
Of froth, as of the which yet still my plasaunt name I beare.
Neptunus graunted her request. and by and by beereft them
Of all that euer mortall was. In sted wherof he left them
A hault and stately Nature: and altring them in hew
With shape & names meest meete for Goddes he did them both endew.

Leuco-

Leucothoë was the moothers name, Palemon was the sonne.
The Thebane Ladies folowing her as fast as they could roonne,
Did of her feete perceiue the print vpon the vtter stone.
And taking it for certaine signe that both were dead and gone,
in making mone for Cadmus house, they wrang their handes and tare
their heare, and rent their clothes, and railed on Juno out of square,
as nothing iust, but more outragious farre then did beehoue
in so reuenging of herselfe vpon her husbandes loue.
The Goddesse Juno coould not beare their railing. And in faith
You alss will I make too bee as witnesses (she sayth)
Of my outragious cruelitie. And so shee did in deede.
For shee that loued Ins best was folowing her with speede
into the sea. But as shee woold herselfe haue dowineward cast,
Shee coould not stirre, but too the rocke as nailed stickd fast.
The second as shee knockt her brest, did feele her armes way stiffe.
Another as shee stretched out her handes vpon the cliffe,
was made a stone, and there stoode still ay stretching forth her handes
into the water as beefore. And as another standes
a tearinge of her ruffled lokes, her fingers hardened were
and fastned to her frisled toppe still tearing of her heare.
And looke what gesture eche of them was taken in that tide,
Euen in the same transformd to stones, they fastned did abide.
and some were altred intoo birdes which Cadmies called bes
And in that goolf with flittering wings still too and fro doo flee.
Nought knoweth Cadmus that his daughter and her litle child
Admitted were among the Goddes that rule the surges wild.
Compeld with grief and grea[illegible]lehappes that had ensewd toogither,
and straunge foretokens often seene since first his comming thither,
He vtterly forsakes his towne the which hee builded had,
as though the fortune of the place so hardly him beestad,
and not his owne. And fleeting long like pilgrims, at the last
vpon the coast of Illirie his wife and he were cast.
Wl here ny forpind with cares and yeres, while of the chaunces past
vpon their house, and of their toyles and former trauels tane
They sadly talkt betwene themselues, was my speare head the bane
of that same oogly snake of Mars (quod Cadmus) when I fled
from Sidon: for did I his teeth in plowghed pasture spred:
if for the death of him the Goddes so cruell vengeaunce take,
Drawen out in length vpon my wombe then tratle I like a snake.
Hee had no sooner said the word but that he gan too glide.
Vppon his belly like a snake. And on his hardened side
He felt the scales new budding out, the which was wholy fret

With speckled droppes of blacke and gray as thicke as coould bee set.
He falleth grouelyng on his brest, and bothe his shankes doo growe
In one round spindle bodkin wyse with sharpned point belowe.
His armes as yet remayned still: his armes that dyd remayne,
He stretched out, and sayd with teares that plentuously did raine
a downe his face, which yet did keepe the natiue fashion sownd,
Come hither wyfe, come hither wight most wretched on the grownd,
and whyle that ought of mee remaynes vouchsauf too touche the same.
Come take mee by the hand as longe as hand may haue his name,
Beefore this snakish shape doo whoole my body ouerrunne.
He woold haue spoken more when sodaynly his toonge beegonne
too splytte in twoo: speeche did fayle: and as he did attempt
too make his mone, he hist: for nature now had cleane exempt
all other speeche. His wretched wyfe her naked stoomacke beete:
and kryde, what meaneth this? deere Cadmus wher are now thy feete?
where are thy shoolders and thy handes? thy hew and manly face?
with all the other thynges that did thy princely person grace?
which now I ouerpasse. But why yee Goddes doo you delay?
Thy boddie into like misshape of Serpent too conuey?
When this was spoken, Cadmus likt his wyfe about the lippes:
And (as a place with which he was acquaynted well) he slippes
intoo her boosome, louingly embracing her, and cast
himself about her necke, as oft he had in tyme forepast.
Such as were there (their folke were there) were flaighted at the syght,
For by and by they sawe their neckes did glister slicke and bright.
And on their snakish heades grew creste: and finally they bothe
were into very dragons turnd. and for[illegible]togither gothe
fone trayling by the toothers syde. but[illegible] they gaynd a wood
The which direct against the place wheras they were than stood.
And now remembryng what they were themselues in tymes forepast,
They neyther shonne nor hurten men with stingyng nor with blast.
But yet a comfort too them bothe in this their altred hew)
Became that noble impe of theirs that Indie did subdew,)
whom all Achaya woorshipped with temples buylded new.)
Alonly Acrise Abas sonne (though of the selfsame stocke)
Remaind, whoo out of Argos walles vnkyndly did hym locke.
And moued wilfull warre againste his Godhead: thinkyng that
there was not any race of Goddes for he beeleeued nat
That Persey was the sonne of Ioue: or that he was conceyued
By Danae of golden shower through which shee was deceiued.
But yet ere long (such present force hath truthe) he dooth repent
as well his great impietie againste God Bacchus meant,

As

As also that he did disdaine his Nephew for too knowe.
But Bacchus now full gloriously himself in Heauen dooth showe.
And Persey bearing in his hand the monster Gorgons head,
That famous spoile which heere & there with snakish heare was spred,
dooth beate the aire with wauyng wynges. And as he ouerflew
The Lybicke sandes, the droppes of blood that from the head did sew
of Gorgon beeyng new cut of, vppon the ground did fall.
Which takyng them (and as it were conceyuing therwithall,)
Engendred sundrye snakes and wormes: by meanes wherof that clyme
did swarme with Serpentes euer syns, euen too this present tyme.
From thens he lyke a watry cloud was caried with the weather,
Through all the heauē, now here, now there as light as any fether.
And from aloft he viewes the earth that vnderneath dooth lye,
and swiftly ouer all the world dooth in conclusion flye.
Three times ỹ chilling beares, three times ỹ crabbes fel cleas he saw:)
Oft tymes too west, oft tymes too east did driue him many a flawe.)
Now at such tyme as vntoo rest the sonne beegan too drawe,)
Bicause hee did not thinke it good too bee abrode all night,)
within king Atlas westerne Realme he ceased from his flyght,)
Requestyng that a little space of rest enioye he myght,)
Untill such tyme as Lucifer should bring the mornyng gray,
and mornyng bring the lightsome sonne that guydes the cheerfull day.
This Atlas Japets Nephewe, was a man that did excell
In stature euery oother wyght that in the world did dwell.
The vtmost coast of all the Earth and all that Sea wherin
the tyred steedes and wecary wayne of Phœbus dined bin,
were in subiection too this [illegible]. A thousand flockes of sheepe,
a thousand heardes of Rother [illegible]es hee in his fields did keepe:
and not a neighbor did anoy his ground by dwellyng nye.
Too him the wandryng Persey thus his language did applie.
If high renowne of royall race thy noble hart may moue,
I am the sonne of Joue himself: for if thou more approue
The valeant deedes and hault exploytes, thou shalt perceiue in mee
Such doinges as deserue with prayse extolled for too bee.
I pray thee of thy Courtesye receiue mee as thy guest,
and let mee only for this night within thy palace rest.
King Atlas called streight too mynd an auncient prophesie
Made by Parnassian Themys, which this sentence did implye.
The tyme shall one day Atlas come in which thy golden tree
shall of her fayre and precious frute dispoyld and robbed bee.
And hee shalbee the sonne of Joue that shall enioy the pray.
For feare herof hee did enclose his Orchard euery way

With mighty hilles, and put an oogly dragon in the same
too keepe it. Further he forbad that any straunger came
within his Realme. and to this knight he said presumptuously:)
auoid my land, onlesse thou wilt by vtter perill trie)
that all thy glorious actes wherof thou doost so lowdly lye)
And Joue thy father bee too farre too helpe thee at thy neede.
To these his wordes hee added force, and went about in deede
too driue him out by strength of hand. To speake was losse of winde
for neyther could intreating faire nor stoutnes turne his minde.
well then (quoth Persey) sith thou doest mine honour set so light,
take here a present: and with that, he turnes away his sight,
and from his left side drewe mee out Medusas lothly head.
As huge and big as Atlas was he turned in that stead
intoo a mountaine: Into trees his beard and lokes did passe:
His hands and shoolders made the ridge: that part which lately was
his head. became the highest top of all the hill: his bones
were turnd too stones: and therwithall he grew mee all at ones
Beyond al measure vp in heighth (For so God thought it best)
So farre that heauen with all the starres did on his shoolders rest.
In endlesse prison by that time had Aeolus loct the wind
And now the cheerly morning starre that putteth folke in mind
Too rise about their daily worke shone brightly in the skie.)
Then Persey vnto both his feete did streight his feathers tie)
and girt his woodknife too his side, and from the earth did stie.)
And leauing nations nomberlesse beneath him euerie way
at last vpon king Cepheyes fields in Aethiop did he stay.
where cleane against all right and law [illegible] Joues commaundement
Andromad for her moothers toong di[illegible] poonnishment.
Whom too a rocke by both the armes when fastned hee had seene,
Hee woold haue thought of marble stone shee had some image beene,
But that her tresses too and fro the whisking wind did blowe,)
and trickling teares warme from her eyes a downe her cheeks did flow)
Vnwares hereat gan secret sparks within his brest too glowe.)
His wits were straught at sight therof and rauisht in such wise,
That how too houer with his wings hee scarsly coould deuise.
Assoone as hee had stayd himself, O ladie faire (quoth hee))
Not woorthie of such bandes as these, but such wherwith wee see)
toogether knit in lawfull bed the earnest louers bee.)
I pray thee tell mee what thyselfe and what this land is named
and wherfore thou doost weare these chains: the lady ill ashamed
was at the soodeine striken doomb: and like a fearfull maid
shee durst not speake vntoo a man. Had not her handes beene staid

She

Shee would haue hid her bashfull face. Howbeit as she might
with great abundance of her teares shee stopped vp her sight
But when that Persey oftentimes was earnestly in hand)
To learne the matter, for because shee woolde not seeme too stand)
In stubborne silence of her faults, shee told him what the land)
And what she hight: and how her moother for her beawties sake
through pride did vnaduisedly too much vpon her take.
And ere shee full had made an end, the water gan to roze:
an ougly monster from the deepe was making too the shoze
which bare the sea befoze his brest. The virgin shrieked out.
Her father and her moother both stood moorning thereabout,
in wretched case both twaine, but not so wretched as the mayd
who wrongly for her moothers fault the bitter raunsome paid.
They brought not with them any help: but as the time and cace
required they wept and wrang their handes, and streightly did embrace
her body fastned to the rocke. Then Persey them beespake,)
and said: the time may serue too long this sorrow for too make:)
But time of helpe must eyther now or neuer els bee take)
now if I Persey sonne of her whom in her fathers towze
The mighty Ioue beegat with child in shape of golden showze,
who cut of ougly Gorgons head beespred with snakish heare,
And in the aire durst trust these wings my body for too beare,
Perchaunce shoold saue your daughters life, I thinke yee shoold as the
accept me for your sonne in lawe beefoze all oother men.
Too these great thewes (by the helpe of God) I purpose for too ad
a iust desert in helping her that is so hard bestad.
I couenant with you by [illegible] and manhod for too saue her.
Conditionly that too my [illegible] recompence I haue her.
Her parentes tooke his offer streight: (for who woold sticke therat
and prayd him faire and promisd him that for performing that
They woold endow him with the right of al their Realme beeside.
Like as a Galley with her nose dooth cut the water wide,
Enforced by the sweating armes of Rowers with the tide
Euen so the monster with his brest did beare the waues aside,
And was now come as neere the rocke as well a man might fling
Amid the pure and vacant aire a pellet from a sling.
when on the soodeine Persey pusht his feete against the ground,
and flied vpward too the cloudes his shadow did rebound
Vpon the sea: the beast ran fierce vpon the passing shade.
And as an Aegle when hee sees a dragon in a glade
Lie beaking of his blewish backe against the sonnie rayes,
Dooth ceaze vpon him vnbeeware, and with his talants layes

Sure hold vppon his ſcaly necke leaſt writhing backe his head
his cruell teeth might doo him harme: So Perſey in that ſtead
diſcending downe the aire a maine with all his force and might)
did ceaze vppon the monſters backe: and vnderneath the right)
ſyde hard vntoo the verie hilt his hooked ſwoord did ſmight.)
The monſter beeing wounded ſore, did ſomtime leape aloft,
and ſomtime vnder water diue, beeſtirring him full oft
as dooth a chauſed boare beeſet with barking dogges about.
But Perſey with his lightſome wings ſtil keeping him without
the monſters reach, with hooked ſword dooth ſomtime hew his backe
where as the hollow ſcales geue way: and ſomtime he dooth backe
the ribbes on both his mayled ſides: and ſometime he dooth wound
his ſpindle taile where into fiſh it growes moſt ſmal and round.
The whale at Perſey from his mouth ſuch waues of water caſt,
beemired with the purple blood, that all beedyeint at laſt
his feathers very heauy were: and douting any more
too truſt his wings now waring wet, hee ſtreight beegan too ſore
vp too a rocke which in the calme aboue the water ſtood:
but in the tempeſt euermore was hidden wyth the flood.
And leaning therantoo and with his left hand holding inſt
the top therof a dooʒen times his weapon hee did thruſt
among his guttes. The ioyful noiſe and clapping of their handes
the which were made for looſening of Andromad from her bandes,
fild all the coaſt and heauen it ſelf. The parents of the Maid
Caſſiopee and Cepheus were glad and well apayd:
and calling him their ſonne in law confeſſed him too bee)
the helpe and ſafegard of their houſe. Confeſſed Andromadee the fee)
and cauſe of Perſeys enterpriſe from [illegible] now breynge free,)
he waſhed his victorious handes [illegible] the ſnaky head
with lying on the grauell hard ſhoold catch ſome harme, he ſpred
ſoft leaues and certaine tender twigs that in the water grew,)
and laid Medvſas head thereon: the twigs yet being new)
and quicke and full of ielwie pith full lightly too them drew)
the nature of this monſtrouus head. for both the leafe and bough
full ſtraungely at the touch therof beecame both hard and tough.
The ſeanimphes tride this wondrous fact in diuers other roddes)
and were full glad too ſee the chaung, bycauſe there was no oddes)
of leaues or twigs or of the ſeedes new ſhaken from the coddes.)
for ſtill like nature euer ſince is in our corall found:
that looke how ſoone it toucheth aire it warcth harde and ſound.
and that which vnder water was a ſticke, aboue is ſtone.
Three altars too as many Goddes he makes of turfe anon.

Vpon

Upon the left hand Mercuries: Mineruas on the right:
and in the middle Iupiters: too Pallas he did dight
a cow: a calfe too Mercurie: a Bull too royall Ione.
Forthwith hee tooke Andromadee the price for which hee strone
Endowed with her fathers Realme. For now the god of loue
And Hymen vntoo mariage his mind in hast did mone.
Great fires were made of sweete perfumes, & curious garlonds hung
about the house, which euerie where of mirthfull musicke roong
the gladsome signe of merie minde. The Palace gates were set
wide open, none from comming in were by the Porters let.
All Noblemen and Gentlemen that were of any port
too this same great and royall feast of Cephey did resort.
When hauing taken their repast as well of meat as wine
Their hartes beegan too pleasant mirth by leysure too encline,
The valeant Persey of the folke and fashions of the land
beegan too bee inquisitiue. One Lincide out of hande
the rites and maners of the folke did doo him vnderstand.
which doone hee said: O worthie knight I pray thee tell vs by
what force or wils thou gotst the head with heares of adders sly e.
Then Persey told how vnderneath cold Atlas lay a plaine
so fenced in on euerie side with mountaines high, that vaine
were any force too winne the same. In entrance of the which
twoo daughters of king Phorcis dwelt whose chaunce & hap was such
that one eye serued both their turnes: wherof by wily slight
and stealth in putting forth [illegible] and hee did beereeue them quight,
as they from tone too toot[illegible]ere deliuering of the same.
From whence by long bli[illegible]ed stepes vnhandsomly he came
through gastly groues by [illegible] vntoo the derie place
Wheras the Gorgons dwelt: [illegible]ere hee saw (a wretched cace)
the shapes as well of men as beasts lie scattred euerie where
in open fields and common wayes, the which transformed were
from liuing things too stones at sight of foule Medusas heare.
But yet that hee through brightnesse of his monstruous brazen shield
the which hee in his left hand bare, Medusas face beeheld.
And while that in a sound dead sleepe were all her snakes and shee,
hee softly pared of her head: and how that hee did see
swift Pegasus the winged horse and eke his brother grow
out of their mothers new shed blood. Moreourr hee did showe
a long discourse of all his happes and not so long as trew:
as namely of what seas and lands the coasts hee ouerflew,
and eke what starres with flying wings hee in the while did view.
But yet his tale was at an end ere any lookt therfore.

Upon

Vppon occasion by and by of woordes reherst beefore
There was a certaine noble man demaunded him wherfore
Shee only of the sisters three heare mirt with adders bore.
Sir (answerd Persey) sith you aske a matter woorth report
I graunt too tell you your demaund. shee both in comly port
and beawtie, euery other wight surmounted in such sort,
That many suters vntoo her did earnestlie resort.
And though that whole from top too too most bewtiful shee were,
in all her body was no part more goodly then her heare.
I know some parties yet aliue, that say they did her see.
It is reported how shee should abused by Neptune bee
In Pallas Church: frō which fowle fact Ioues daughter turns her eie,
and with her Target bid her face from such a villanie.
and least it should vnpoonisht bee shee turnd her seemely heare)
too lothly snakes: the which (the more to put her foes in feare))
Beefore her brest continually shee in her shield dooth beare)

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